



## NOTICE OF MEETING

# CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

## BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, July 21, 2020, 3:00 P.M.

Council Chamber – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY AND IS COMPLIANT WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS ALLOWING FOR A DEVIATION OF TELECONFERENCE RULES REQUIRED BY THE BROWN ACT.

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## AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. February 18, 2020 meeting minutes  
**Reference:** Milas Smith Deputy Director of Public Works  
**Recommended Action:** Approve the meeting minutes.

3. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

*General Public Comment must deal with matters subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission that are not on the Regular Agenda. This is the appropriate place to comment as to items on the Consent Agenda, only if you do not wish to have the item pulled for individual consideration by the Beautification and Natural Resources Commission. Comments from the public will be limited to three minutes and will not receive Commission action. Comments regarding items on the Regular Agenda shall be heard prior to the Beautification and Natural Resources Commission's consideration of such items at the time such items are called. Whenever possible, written correspondence should be submitted to the Beautification and Natural Resources Commission in advance of the meeting, to provide adequate time for its consideration.*

4. **COUNCIL LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

5. Assessment and proposed management activities Monarch Grove Sanctuary and George Washington Park for 2020

**Reference:** Milas Smith Deputy Director of Public Works

**Recommended Action:** Receive the report

6. George Washington Park Subcommittee Report

**Reference:** Milas Smith Deputy Director of Public Works

**Recommended Action:** Continue with subcommittees' park oversight with regards to recommendations identified below.

7. Commission Goals

**Reference:** Milas Smith Deputy Director of Public Works

**Recommended Action:** Approve Goals

8. Harbor Seal Report

**Reference:** Milas Smith Deputy Director of Public Works

**Recommended Action:** Receive the report

9. Tree Appeal 1204 Miles Ave Pacific Grove

**Reference:** Albert Weisfuss City Arborist

**Recommended Action:** Uphold decision of the City Arborist # 20-112 denying the removal of (2) Live Oak trees

10. **COMMISSION AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS (City-Related Items Only)**

**NEXT MEETING: September 15, 2020**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Chair Anton and Members of the Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:**  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** February 18, 2020 meeting minutes

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the meeting minutes.

**Attachments**

Feb 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes

## **CALL TO ORDER AT 4 PM.**

### **1. ROLL CALL**

Beautification and Natural Resources Commission Members: Jeanie Anton, Chair; Thom Akeman; Colleen Goldsmith; Cathy Wooten; Barry Bedwell; Dave Myers; Rebecca Lee

### **2. Approval of February Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda carried 7-0 vote

### **3. Election of Officers**

Nominations and voting for officers carried by 7-0 vote for Chair Jeanie Anton, Vice Chair Dave Myers and Secretary Colleen Goldsmith

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes of January 21, 2020 carried 7-0 vote with correction noted to typo error in word ordinance under Item 8c.

### **5. Presentation by Monarch Sanctuary Docents**

Mary Dainton presented updated count of 30 Monarchs in the sanctuary with 1300 visitors logged during period of January 20th until February 17th by the volunteer docents. Eight school groups were educated at the Museum and Sanctuary with total of 423 children and 109 chaperones. One tour group of adults on tour totaled 41. Watering in the Sanctuary is being done by city volunteers but it was noted that the Euryops daisies dry out quickly and need to be planted out. Monarch docent equipment is back at the Sanctuary and Caleb Schneider and Amy Colony were thanked for their efforts. Bathroom is well utilized and docents are working with the city and museum to coordinate opening the bathroom when staff are not on duty. A new No Dog sign has been installed at the Grove Acre entrance.

### **6. Public Comments**

- a. Written Communication: 26 emails were received from residents: support of the program for memorial trees (12); assertion of too many trees in Berwick Park (1); turn out signage (3); nectar brochure (2); Monarch butterfly comments (2); bees (1); Sanctuary grants (1); poetry plaque (2);

Congressman Panetta visit to Sanctuary (1); and commendation Amy Colony and Caleb Schneider at city council meeting (1).

- b. Oral Communication: Lisa Ciani commented on the suggestion for a nectar garden at Lovers Point by Cynthia Garfield; the e-bike ordinance and need for community service officer to patrol recreation trail; and request for update of RFP for Geo. Washington Park.

#### **7. Reports Not Requiring Action**

- a. Council Liaison Nick Smith absent
- b. Chair Anton thanked the Geo. Washington sub-committee and volunteers working in the park; Rebecca Lee and Cathy Wooten were also thanked for their work on the nectar brochure.

#### **8. Items Requiring Action:**

- a. Capital Improvement Project (CIP) presented by Milas Smith is defined as a property, plant, or improvement having a useful life of 2 plus years and a total cost of \$5,000 or more. CIP are non-recurring projects and BNRC proposed 5 possible projects for consideration.

Public Comment: Lisa Ciani supports dedicated funding for tree planting. Commissioner

Comment: Dave Myers commented on the memorial wall at the cemetery for purpose of memorials; Barry Bedwell inquired about the funding for planting trees; Thom Akeman

commented that the CIP funding would be in addition to the Memorial Tree Project and suggested that an outside contractor be considered for planting and watering trees; also

stated that city of Pacific Grove is 8 years behind in planting replacement trees for the city-wide canopy; Rebecca Lee supports an outside contractor and would like to give trees to residents to

plant on their properties; Dave Myers raised question of best locations for planting trees; Cathy

Wooten supports the tree funding; Colleen Goldsmith noted the mature trees in the city that will

require replacement now and in the future; Barry Bedwell inquired about the placement of trees planted to replace existing trees. Other comments regarding CIP suggestions by the BNRC include

Jeanie Anton in support of replacing the sagging ropes at the Sanctuary; Colleen Goldsmith suggestion that mural on the rec trail be considered ; Cathy Wooten regarding the trail clarification in Geo. Washington Park. By a vote of 7-0, BNRC selected the dedicated tree funding and replacement of sagging ropes as the CIP proposals to be submitted to the city.

- b. Annual BNRC Goals Update presented by Chair Anton with recommendation that subcommittee review and update 2020 goals. Subcommittee formed with Colleen Goldsmith, Dave Myers and Cathy Wooten to meet with Milas Smith and bring forward to next BNRC meeting.

Public Comment: Lisa Ciani suggested that Wildlife be a separate category. Commissioner

Comment: Barry Bedwell inquired about the raccoon problem and suggested that raccoon issue be included under wildlife goals; PW Dan Gho noted that raccoon problems should be addressed to PG Animal Control.

- c. Nectar Plant Brochure summary provided by Chair Anton. Public Comment: Lisa Ciani suggested the addition of language "no pesticides"; Connie Masotti would like to see emphasis on native plants over non-natives. Commissioner Comment: Cathy Wooten likes the addition of wording "To prevent harm to Monarchs", it is recommended....Rebecca Lee supports additional wording; Dave Myers commented on the Nextdoor misinformation regarding milkweed; Jeanie Anton commented on non-natives that thrive in gardens that attract butterflies; Colleen Goldsmith remarked on the Nextdoor thread and the strong interest by the public for a nectar brochure; Rebecca Lee explained that while this may not be the perfect brochure, it is the result of months of discussion and debate concerning what should be planted to help our Monarchs. A vote was taken and passed 7-0 to add the suggested language to the brochure and commence printing.

## **9. Unfinished /Ongoing Business**

- a. Dan Gho summarized the status of the turnout signage and 5 locations where signs are installed to assist PG Police and Fire Departments for emergency response. The Police Department would like to add 2 additional signs and is submitting alternative sign language consistent with location

identification. Public Comment: Lisa Ciani commented that current signs are confusing and do not require complete sentences; Lynn Mason inquired whether BNRC should be involved in approval of new signs and recommended numbers or simplified name as identification. Commissioner Comment: Barry Bedwell believes the full sentences are unnecessary; Chair Anton noted that a sign survey was conducted last year along the coastal trail; Dave Myers supports PGPD but would like to have better signage; Cathy Wooten suggested identifying numbers; Colleen Goldsmith endorses the addition of the word turnout for Sea Palm. Police Chief Cathy Madalone likes numbers on signs. After review of alternative signage language, the BNRC supports the replacement of the current turnout signs with the first 3 alternatives mocked up by the PD.

## **10. New Business**

a. PW Dan Gho presented information about the Memorial Tree Program that was started by the city in 2012. Informational flyer and applications can be found on the city website. A map of pre-determined locations has been identified and were presented. Public Comment: Lynn Mason suggested that city promote this program and would like to see more trees on Lighthouse, Esplanade and Berwick Park. Don Murphy supports program and would like to expand planting to city streets. Bud Biery likes pruning at Berwick Park because some trees are 15-20 feet in diameter which block ocean views and public/residents will lose their view of the ocean; Lisa Ciani supports the program and emphasized that some of the parks need replacement trees but is concerned about replacement costs in the event a memorial tree dies. Commissioner Comment: Chair Anton thinks the program needs to be promoted; Rebecca Lee stated that city website does nothing to promote memorial program; Dave Myers inquired about how tree locations are determined and is mindful of trees along the coastline impacting ocean views; Thom Akeman supports planting trees along the coastline and promoting the program; Barry Bedwell advocates a balance between trees and ocean views with the ocean being one of the biggest assets in the city; Colleen Goldsmith emphasized that Berwick Park has a large expanse of green

grass that should not be planted with numerous trees and emphasized that the views of the ocean provide a beautiful calming effect for both residents and visitors, noting that visitors do not come to the city to view trees. Rebecca Lee noted that trees are for residents and that Berwick Park is reserved for events, while supporting the planting of trees on Lighthouse, the Monarch Sanctuary and in neighborhoods. Chair Anton enjoys seeing trees in her ocean views and it is not possible to consider everyone's view corridor. Dave Myers noted that old photos indicate there were no trees along the coast and does not support blocking of resident ocean views. Dan Gho stated that tree locations are determined by past tree locations and the arborist has selected appropriate locations for memorial tree planting.

- b. Monarch Sanctuary Plaque presented by Milas Smith concerning the offer by Poet Jon Plaisted to install an "October in Pacific Grove" plaque within the Sanctuary, with the costs borne by the author and location installment determined by Public Works. Public Comment: Lisa Ciani noted that this was first presented to the museum board but BNRC is tasked with the review of public art. Connie Masotti thinks that the Sanctuary should be kept natural and does not support a plaque. Commissioner Comment: Thom Akeman does not support a plaque but does believe interpretative signage would be of benefit; Dave Myers suggested that museum garden would be better location for poetry plaque. Motion to not install the plaque within the Sanctuary passed 7-0.

## **11. Commissioner's Report**

Chair Anton noted that Form 700 must be filed every year; City Manager requests that city staff be present for subcommittee meetings. All commissioners can approve meeting minutes but if dissent, the name of the commissioner should be noted. Further a report is not open to discussion except for clarification purposes and if a report requires discussion, it should be on the agenda. A special announcement for the Sanctuary will take place at noon on Thursday with Congressman Jimmy Panetta and BNRC commissioners are invited to attend the event.

Thom Akeman stated that 20 volunteers assisted at Geo. Washington Park and March 14th and

April 11th are the next scheduled park work sessions. Additionally Thom is trying to get some high school students to assist in the park work. The subcommittee will meet in the summer to assess progress. Harbor seals are expected to have a birthing season much like last year which will start in March. The population is faced with increased numbers of sharks in the bay

**12. Staff Announcements: none**

**13. Items for Next Agenda:** Arbor Day Event; Status of Harbor Seals; 2020 BNRC Goals; and discussion of BNRC and Public Works interaction.

**Meeting Adjourned: 5:53 pm**

**Secretary**

**Signature**

**Date**

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**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Caleb Schneider Management Analyst  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** Assessment and proposed management activities Monarch Grove Sanctuary and George Washington Park for 2020

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive the report.

**DISCUSSION**

The City of Pacific Grove has worked in partnership with Creekside Center for Earth Observation for the observation and consulting services for the Monarch Grove Sanctuary. On a yearly basis, Dr. Stuart B. Weiss has worked with City staff to identify management activities that need to occur in the Monarch Grove Sanctuary and also George Washington Park. Dr. Weiss report highlights, recent history and current conditions, long term views, and recommendations. The City has made great strides in the Sanctuary over the last few years. Below is a summary of the recommendations for this coming year.

Summary of recommended actions (see attached full report for more detail).

Minimal on the ground actions are recommended this year

1. The tree that was re-staked west of the nectar beds may not be viable in the long run. Its health and prospects should be assessed by the City Arborist.
2. Removal of dead eucalyptus in the SE corner of the Sanctuary.
3. Establish a cypress tree in the open area east of the viewing area, as a potential cluster tree in a dappled light area. Plant at least two cypresses, but be prepared to thin down to a single tree once establishment is assured.
4. Filling gaps the southern boundary eucalyptus row with different eucalyptus species, especially E. as recommended
5. Planting cypress east of the nectar beds from the acacia stand to the bend in the trail.
6. Establish low growing native fall nectar species in the sunny borders of the main trail as it winds through the established nectar beds.
7. Tend the yellow Buddleia and tree daisies to produce new growth by selective pruning.
8. Oak understory plantings: procurement of acorns and trees, and planning for appropriate sites.
9. Toyon and ceanothus understory plantings: procurement of shrubs and planning for appropriate sites.

City Staff will be hosting an annual walkthrough in the near future, the date is to be determined.

## Attachments

Stew Weiss Report

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# CREEKSIDE SCIENCE

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Caleb Schneider  
Daniel Gho  
Albert Weisfuss  
City of Pacific Grove, CA

7 July 2020

## **Assessment and proposed management activities Monarch Grove Sanctuary and George Washington Park for 2020**

The following recommendations and assessments are based on site visits and consultations with City Arborist Albert Weisfuss and Caleb Schneider in spring 2020. They are addressed in the context of the 2011 Management Plan (Weiss 2011) and subsequent consultations with City staff and residents, including annual recommendations from 2014-2019 (Weiss 2014-2019). The recommendations are based on previous scientific work, professional judgment, and detailed field assessments. They carefully balance monarch habitat needs, hazard reduction, and forest health, based on both short-term and long-term perspectives.

City Arborist Albert Weisfuss completed a detailed report with his recommendations, and those are considered in this report (Weisfuss 2020).

Background data on monarch numbers at Monarch Grove Sanctuary (Xerces Society Thanksgiving Counts and New Year's Counts) provide context of the entire California monarch population. We have incorporated butterfly monitoring data from the Pacific Grove Museum since 2013 to document habitat suitability and monarch use patterns relative to weather and time of season. This reporting on monarch abundance and distribution provide a long-term accessible record for the local community.

### **Summary of recommended actions (see below for detailed exposition)**

Minimal on the ground actions are recommended this year

1. The tree that was re-staked west of the nectar beds may not be viable in the long run. Its health and prospects should be assessed by the City Arborist

2. Removal of dead eucalyptus in the SE corner of the Sanctuary
3. Establish a cypress tree in the open area east of the viewing area, as a potential cluster tree in a dappled light area. Plant at least two cypress, but be prepared to thin down to a single tree once establishment is assured.
4. Filling gaps the southern boundary eucalyptus row with different eucalyptus species, especially E. as recommended
5. Planting cypress east of the nectar beds from the acacia stand to the bend in the trail.
6. Establish low growing native fall nectar species in the sunny borders of the main trail as it winds through the established nectar beds.
7. Tend the yellow Buddleia and tree daisies to produce new growth by selective pruning.
8. Oak understory plantings: procurement of acorns and trees, and planning for appropriate sites
9. Toyon and ceanothus understory plantings: procurement of shrubs and planning for appropriate sites

Planning for future actions in 2020 and beyond include:

1. Formal delineation of management zones for native pine /oak forest, including understory species.

## History

### *Current status of monarchs in California:*

The western monarch population that overwinters in California has been declining for decades (Schultz et al 2017), and the Thanksgiving Counts reached their lowest level (~21,000) ever in 2019 (Table 1), following the previous record low in 2018 (~30,000). The fall 2019 population had suffered an 84% (six-fold) reduction from fall 2017 (~190,000). The prior historical low was ~60,000 in 2009, with a bounce back to 300,000 in 2016.

The long-term decline is likely the result of conditions in the breeding areas, and the short-term fluctuations the result of annual weather. This recent collapse has garnered much attention, and there are numerous efforts at national, state, and local levels to address the causes and consequences (Pelton et al. 2019). Among the likely causes discussed are (Crone 2019):

1. Loss of milkweeds across the breeding range, or in key areas, is a long-term driver. For example, in the 1980s and 1990s, milkweed abundance in the Central Valley plummeted with increased intensity of “clean farming.”
2. Deterioration of overwintering sites that is increasing mortality. The lack of management at many sites has led to too much wind exposure and other deleterious microclimate conditions.
3. “Climate whiplash” whereby warm mid-winter conditions stimulate the butterflies to break diapause and leave prematurely. In winter 2018, monarchs

left the overwintering grounds in February, only to encounter one of the coldest and rainiest March periods in recent history. Much of the reproductive potential of that generation in spring 2018 was lost. Monarchs never made it parts of the Pacific Northwest, indicating a break in the multi-generational like cycle in spring and early summer.

4. A gap in milkweed availability in early spring when butterflies leave the overwintering grounds, related to 3 (climate whiplash) but also related to the rarity of three milkweed species (*Asclepias californica*, *A. cordifolia*, and *A. eriocarpa*) that emerge earlier than the more common *A. fascicularis*.
5. Pesticide use whereby milkweeds in agricultural areas become mortality sinks. Neonicotinoid insecticides are mobile, persistent, and absorbed by plant tissues (systemic). In particular, milkweeds in the Central Valley have accumulated lethal and sublethal levels of several pesticides, even outside intensive agricultural areas (Halsch et al 2020).
6. Increased infection rates with *Ophryocystis elektroscirrha* (O.e.) a protozoan parasite that can build up in populations where tropical milkweed allows nearly year round breeding.
7. The cumulative effects of all the above, “death by a thousand cuts” is the most likely explanation.

#### *Monarch Grove Sanctuary History in Context:*

Monarch Grove Sanctuary (MGS) continues to support one of the largest overwintering aggregations in California (Table 1). The ultimate size of the MGS aggregation is dependent on range-wide breeding success the previous summer, and the ability of the site to attract butterflies in the fall and provide suitable temperature, light, and wind conditions through the fall and winter. An abbreviated history here provides some context.

Since 1998, MGS supported between 1% and 14% of the Thanksgiving Count estimates for the entire state. From 2001 on, MGS supported between 17% and 58% of the Monterey County population.

The severe drop in 2009 to 800 butterflies reflected a sharp decline rangewide from 220,000 to 55,000, likely driven by a three year drought across the Western United States. The low numbers at MGS in 2009-2010 also followed hazard branch trimming (summer 2009) along the southern boundary where monarchs had clustered in most years. The relative contributions of low overall California numbers and branch trimming to the sharp decline compared to other aggregations are difficult to quantify. MGS had supported as few as 20% of the Monterey County population (in 2004) compared with 17% in 2009.

Numbers and ranking recovered in 2010 and 2011 with the end of the drought. In fall 2010, potted trees were placed along the southern edge to fill in low wind gaps. Adventitious branches filled the mid-level gaps created by the trimming, and wind

shelter improved on the southern boundary. Importantly, the blue gum trees planted in 1999 achieved heights (50-60') and crown volume that provided critical NW wind shelter, as envisioned in the 1998 management plan. In 2011-2012, butterflies moved from the southern edge into the grove interior for much of the season. Since then they have regularly used those interior trees for substantial parts of many seasons. But in recent years, they have more frequently used the trees on the southern boundary and in the neighbors' yards, especially the pine tree that has served as a major cluster tree since the 1990s (and even before).

### **Recent Monitoring Results**

Creekside staff mapped the location of trees that have been tagged by monitoring crews from the Museum (Figure 1) green triangles. Note the two distinct areas for monarch clustering; the southern and far southeast boundary and the Monterey Pine on the adjacent property (*southern boundary and neighbors yards* [208, 210, and 212 Ridge Road]), and the interior stretching from the hotel driveway to 30-40 m west into the grove (*interior*). The numbers of monarchs and their distribution within seasons have been monitored by the Museum since 2013-14 by the (Figure 3a). The combination of these maps paint a dynamic picture of monarch distribution and abundance in the Sanctuary for 2013-2019. From 2016 to 2019 a simplified map was used by monitors to document monarch distributions, along with tree tags. Discussions of the 2013-2019 seasons are in Appendix A.

The general pattern for each season is a rise in numbers in October/early November, a peak in late-November and December, and a decline, sometime abrupt, through the remainder of the season which usually ends in February, but sometimes extends into March. Overall movements of butterflies between the southern boundary and interior can be tracked as a measure of habitat suitability and response to weather. Wind data from Monterey Airport provide context for local shifts in distribution.

### **2019-2020 season summary**

#### *Weather:*

The Monterey Airport data are used to characterize the seasons, especially wind events. There are no accessible weather stations near the Sanctuary that can provide the long-term quality data collected at Monterey Airport. Conditions at the Sanctuary do differ, but no analysis and descriptions require more than an understanding of the overall weather pattern, especially wind events. The utility of a more local weather station is discussed below.

The 2019-2020 season was relatively mild with only 6 wind events with maximum hourly speed >20 mph (Figure 2a). Three occurred from mid-November to early December, followed by relative calm through mid-January, with 2 final events in early-February. The wind events were mostly associated with rainstorms (Fig. 2b); note the stormy period in late November-early December but the February events were not accompanied by rainfall. Maximum daily temperatures remained in the high 50s/mid-

60s from mid-December into late-January, when a brief spike hit 71°F. Low temperatures fell below 40 °F only 6 times during the season – frost and freeze risks were minimal.

*Butterfly numbers through the season:*

The steep declines in numbers are apparent in the seasonal graph (Figure 3a). For clarity, only 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 are shown in Figure 3b.

The peak numbers observed at MGS in 2019-2020 (642) were 70% of those observed in 2018-2019 (919). The Monterey County population overall was the same in 2019-2020 and 2018-2019. MGS contained 2.9% of the California population, and 25% of the Monterey County population

In fall 2019, butterflies arrived as usual in October with 24 counted on October 18, rising to 101 on November 1, and reaching 642 for the official Thanksgiving count on November 21. In December, numbers fluctuated between ~300 and ~400. In early January, numbers dropped to 130. The mid-January storm scattered the butterflies (down to 65 on January 16), but they had reassembled back to ~130 by January 23. ~100 butterflies were observed in late-January and early-February, and the last significant numbers were observed on Feb. 13.

The peak in 2019-2020 was much shorter than the sustained peak in 2019-2020 (and in other years), and was most similar to 2016-2017. MGS retained 49% of its butterflies through the New Year's count, one of the better performances (third) of 11 sites in Northern California (Table 2). The drop following Thanksgiving was likely the result of the stormy weather in late November-early December (Figure 2a).

*Tree species usage:*

The monarchs primarily used eucalyptus in 2019-2020 (Figure 4a). There were small shifts to cypress early in the season, and to pine mid-season. This pattern greatly contrasts with other recent years: in 2018-2019 they started in eucalyptus and moved to pines (4b); in 2017-2018 they started on eucalyptus and moved to cypress (4c); and in 2016-2017 they started on pines and moved to cypress (4d).

*Butterfly distribution:*

The butterflies primarily stayed on the south boundary (Figure 5a, Figure 1). There was minimal use recorded on the pine south of the fence at 210 Ridge Road, in contrast with many previous years. Small numbers were observed in the interior and along the driveway, and small clusters were observed west of the nectar beds on several occasions. The consistent use of the south boundary eucalyptus reflects the lack of strong wind events for most of the season.

## Long-term Management Considerations

Management of Monarch Grove Sanctuary is a long-term process. This section looks ahead to anticipated changes and issues over the next decades, so that current management recommendations can be put into context. Much of this section is reiterated from previous reports, with a few updates

- 1) **NW Windbreak:** The 1999 blue gum plantings are now 60-70' tall and provide critical NW wind shelter and allow monarchs to remain in the interior of the grove following storms that drive them from the wind-exposed southern boundary. *These eucalyptus trees are the anchor of a multi-species windbreak, and are absolutely necessary to maintain long-term windbreak functions* because pines may succumb to pitch canker and cypress will lose lower branches. The mid-story of pines and cypress currently contributes to windbreak function, as the foliage on the blue gums is concentrated in the upper canopy.
- 2) **Eucalyptus threat?:** The ground along narrow zone below the NW windbreak eucalyptus is being affected by leaf and litter fall, but less than 0.1 acres are affected. The comments on page 2 in the arborist report (“potential catastrophic effects”) greatly exaggerate the threat to native forest, especially since the eucalyptus will not be allowed to spread, and the ground deposits can be occasionally raked up. The remainder of the interior and northern reaches is available for native forest management.
- 3) **Southern Boundary:** The 2011 blue gum plantings inside the southern boundary, authorized by the City, have grown to heights of 25-30' and are beginning to provide additional wind shelter. Monarchs used some of these trees in November and December 2019, with a peak of 53 (~15% of the population) on December 5 (Figure 4e). As these trees continue to grow, eventually monarchs can cluster in a wind sheltered dappled light environment as envisioned in the 2011 Assessment and Management plan. These trees will provide redundancy for the large southern windbreak trees, and will eventually replace them decades from now. These trees are in a tough environment for rapid growth, with shade and root competition from the large southern boundary trees, so they will continue to grow relatively slowly, but will be healthy. Planting some additional trees, *Callistemon viminalis* and *Eucalyptus ficifolia* as recommended by the arborist report in key locations would fill gaps, diversify the windbreak, and provide a multi-age structure (see below).
- 4) **SE Corner:** The densely planted blue gums (2013) in the SE corner are showing signs of overcrowding (some were planted 3' apart), with poor growth relative to more widely spaced trees. There has been a consistent recommendation over the years to thin these trees back to a more appropriate density, but it has never been implemented. The Weisfuss arborist report also recommends thinning these trees. Thinning will increase the health of the remaining trees, and their canopies will expand to fill in the available space. Several of them are now dead, and should be removed (see below). These trees will continue to grow poorly in

- crowded conditions and eventually self-thin, and they are competing with several of the authorized plantings from 2011.
- 5) Farther west on the southern boundary, there are several larger gaps that should be filled. The arborist report recommends *Callistemon viminalis* and *Eucalyptus ficifolia* to diversify the windbreak and provide mid-story and low windbreaks. Cypress are not recommended along the southern boundary because of sprawling growth form.
  - 6) Pines continue to succumb to pitch canker, and despite some wet years in 2017 and 2019, drought effects are still being expressed in some trees, not helped by a dry year in 2020. Continued plantings to maintain a substantial pine component in the grove is important, but pines still cannot be counted upon to provide long-term overstory. Pine plantings need to be protected from browsing and getting knocked over by deer. Removal of pines heavily infested with pitch canker can slow, but not stop the spread.
  - 7) Many of the cypress planted over the last two decades are in their period of rapid growth and will provide significant wind shelter in coming years and decades. The cypress along with blue gums will provide the backbone of the grove, given the uncertainties of pine survival in the long run. Some densely planted cypress stands have been thinned in recent years to encourage more rapid growth of remaining trees, and continued selective thinning is recommended in several spots.
  - 8) There are more than 20 potted cypress brought into the Sanctuary as temporary windbreaks, and these trees should be planted in appropriate spots described below. One particularly important area is the area east and just upslope of the nectar beds, where the death of a large sprawling acacia has opened the understory to wind. More details are provided below.
  - 9) Understory live oaks are scattered among the pines and cypress, and more plantings could fill in understory in select parts of the grove and provide good native habitat. Oaks can eventually provide low and mid-story windbreaks.
  - 10) Overall, there are many sections of the Sanctuary where management for native forest is appropriate, with an emphasis on overstory pines. The northern reaches, beyond the NW windbreak is a prime example. The old pines have died or fallen, leaving wildlife snags and an open canopy. In addition to oaks, native shrubs (toyon and ceanothus in particular but a large palette is available) can contribute to understory. Non-native cover like the calla lilies can be removed in phases, and forest floor forbs could be introduced in parts of the Sanctuary, but all native plantings need to be protected from deer browsing.
  - 11) Maintaining the irrigation system for tree establishment and for watering during droughts, as well as developing a rigorous irrigation management plan overseen by City staff and implemented by volunteers, is critical. But irrigation should only be provided for the first year (unless severe drought occurs in the second year)
  - 12) Attractive fall blooming nectar plants help to retain arriving butterflies early in October and November. *Nectar plants in sunny areas can be used far more frequently than those in the shade and sunny areas are at a premium.* Yellow

Buddleia and tree daisy are the most attractive species in the beds, and replacement of some of the other species in the beds (i.e. the mallow) should be considered. The sunny edges along the trail are perfect for planting native nectar species for fall nectar. Away from the nectar beds, butterflies nectar on the flowering red gum when it occasionally blooms in the fall. Use of bottlebrush was noted every year. Later in the season, early-blooming *Prunus* has provided winter-spring nectar in addition to the blooming blue gums.

## Management Recommendations for 2019 Review

### *Monarch Grove Sanctuary*

Needs for tree management for 2019 were minimal.

- 1) No hazard trees or branches were identified, so no action was necessary.
- 2) Removal of the completely dead pine in the pine stand west of the nectar beds - **done**.
- 3) Removal or re-staking of the cypress west of the nectar beds, depending on arborists judgement **Tree was re-staked, but the arborist suggest that it will be structurally unsound and should be removed. It does not provide critical wind shelter.**
- 4) Planning for a few additional cypress plantings in key spots, to provide back-up for pines. **Sites have been considered, but no trees planted yet.**
- 5) Removal of dead individuals in the crowded blue gums in the SE corner. **Not done**
- 6) Evaluation of needs for further plantings of *Eucalyptus* (not necessarily blue gums) in the second row to fill in gaps along the southern boundary. **Evaluation in arborists report and this document have led to more detailed plans for filling in and diversifying this critical structure using *Callistemon viminalis* and *Eucalyptus ficifolia*.**
- 7) Planning for plantings of live-oaks, either from acorns or from starters. The advantage of acorns is that the root system will be able to freely explore the soil and establish naturally, and many can be planted inexpensively to anticipate mortality. Oaks in starter tubes have truncated root systems. Sites throughout the Sanctuary should be considered to provide understory wind shelter. Live oaks are excellent wildlife habitat as well. Protection of new trees from deer is critical. **Sites have been scoped, but no plantings have been done**
- 8) Toyons can provide good understory wind shelter and are attractive and excellent wildlife habitat. The large toyon just east of the nectar beds is a good example of what the species is capable of. Blue blossom ceanothus is similar to toyon. These shrubs/small trees can complement oak plantings, but must be protected from deer browsing for many years. **No plantings done.**
- 9) Protection of the new pine saplings and volunteer seedlings. **Not done, but there was little browsing in 2019-2020.**

**Management recommendations for 2020. Detailed discussion and observations.**

Note that the arborist report (Weisfuss 2020) designates 4 quadrants in the Sanctuary. These can be mapped onto the zones in Figures 1 and 6, and the correspondence is as follows:

Zone (Weiss)	Quadrant (Weisfuss)	Monarch Cluster Zone (Figure 5a,b).
1	Q4	West Nectar Beds
2	Q2	Interior, Driveway
3	Q1	Southern Boundary
4	Q1	
5	Q1	
6	Q3	
7	Q3-Q2	

- 1) **Zone 1 Removing re-staked tree.** This tree will be structurally deficient and should be removed. Replanting may not be necessary because of the other trees to the west. Maintaining the open sun for monarch access to the nectar beds and bottlebrush is a priority in this zone.
- 2) **Zone 6 Large dead standing pine.** This tree is leaning away from the trail and does not pose direct threat to people, but when it falls it could take out important wind shelter trees to its east. It is recommended that it be carefully removed in the near future, and an irregularly-topped wildlife snag created from the trunk.
- 3) **Zone 2 Plant cypress in the west side shelterbelt (Photo 1 Panorama).** The west facing side of Zone 2, just east and upslope from the nectar beds has an open understory that allows wind into the interior cluster zone. In recent years, wind exposure has increased with the death of the large acacia. The skeleton of the large acacia should be retained for now. There is one acacia that is fenced that will fill in some of the space, but a combination of cypress, oaks, toyons, and ceanothus is recommended to fill in the gaps here. Several volunteer pines have established and should be protected, but cannot be relied upon in the long-term (pitch canker). High priority site for potted cypress planted in a well-spaced (10' minimum) row extending from the remaining cypress in the north to nearly the bend in the trail, and consider a second row to the east staggered to fill gaps in the first row.
- 4) **Zone 1 and 6 redwood management (Photo 2 Panorama).** The redwood trees have been struggling since they were planted. They are water-stressed in many years; many have been growing poorly and have dead tops and branches. The wet years in 2017 and 2019, and a wet spring in 2018 made for decent redwood growth, and the trees are looking better for now. But redwoods are not well suited for Pacific Grove close to the ocean because of salt spray, and will cease height growth once exposed directly to ocean winds. Irrigation has not kept up

with tree water demand. We recommend phasing out the redwoods over a few years and planting cypress and pine as replacements. There is currently sufficient wind shelter in this area that the lack of the short redwoods will not diminish the butterfly habitat.

- 5) **Zone 2 Understory Pines:** New pine plantings have survived their second season and are a few feet tall. Any volunteer pines are also noted and should be protected from deer.
- 6) **Zone 2 Dead Acacia.** This acacia died a few years ago, but removal of the skeleton is not recommended until better wind shelter is established in this area by the cypress plantings described above in 2.
- 7) **Zone 3 Plant isolated cypress for eventual cluster tree.** The large open space to the east of the viewing area has a nice wind-sheltered and dappled light environment. Occupying a small part of this with a lone cypress tree would provide a cluster site that might end up heavily used once the tree grows tall enough (10+ years). Planting at least 2 trees and planning on thinning back to 1 will ensure that a healthy tree is established here.
- 8) **Zone 3 Dense blue gum plantings (2013) status (Photo 3):** Several trees here have died and should be removed. Thinning of the overplanted trees back to a more appropriate spacing is still recommended, a few trees each year. The dead potted trees should be removed.
- 9) **Zone 3 South Fenceline (Photo 4).** One or more of these trees have died and should be removed. The trees planted next to the fence will eventually damage the fence as they grow in girth. No immediate actions are suggested other than removing dead trees, but monitoring the situation is important. At some point in the future (several decades) realignment of the fence will be necessary
- 10) **Zone 3 Eucalyptus plantings (2011) and ground plantings (Photo 10).** The trees planted in 2011 are now growing taller (some are close to 35'). The planting of Douglas iris and strawberry as groundcover is a welcome diversification of the herb layer. The bare area is an excellent planting zone for additional native species, and a systematic selection process and procurement of a greater diversity of native plants is encouraged. There will always be some negative effects of eucalyptus leaves and duff, but occasional raking can deal with that. The area is too shaded to be a consistent nectar zone
- 11) **Zone 4 Closing south edge gap:** On the south edge of Zone 4, there is a substantial low canopy gap that should be filled in by planting a nursery raised blue gum or preferably a red gum to diversify. The arborist report suggests some appropriate species. Cypress is not recommended here because of its spreading growth form.
- 12) **Irrigation system:** Maintaining and operating the irrigation system for establishing trees, and avoiding over-watering and under-watering is an important management action. The reliable early survival of new plantings is dependent on appropriate irrigation, but trees should be weaned off irrigation after a few years once firmly established

- 13) **Management of trees at the Butterfly Grove Inn (Photo 5):** The City and the owners of the hotel need to maintain cordial relations and coordinate actions in this sensitive area. The trees on the property, especially those along the driveway, are critical components of the Sanctuary. Tree trimming several years ago north of the hotel required intervention by the City arborist to reduce the trimming to just what was needed for safety. Balancing safety, tree health, and maintenance of wind shelter can be difficult on adjacent properties.
- 14) **Southern Neighbors (Photo 6):** South of the Sanctuary, trees in the neighbors' yards provide cluster sites (the pine near the shed and several cypress), and additional wind shelter. In 2017-2018, a pines and cypress at 210 and 212 Ridge Road were heavily used by monarchs. While beyond the direct control of the City, maintenance of these trees by the neighbors is important. Outreach by the City is important to find out plans and anticipate changes. Management of hazards over these yards should be done on a case by case basis. But, management actions within the Sanctuary itself are designed to eventually make it more self-contained and less reliant on neighboring property owners.
- 15) **Ridge Road and Short Street trees.** The trees farther south along these two roads play an important role in more distant wind shelter. An evaluation of the health of these trees is necessary to plan long-term maintenance of this important function. This was suggested in 2019, but not done.
- 16) **Nectar beds: (Photos 7, 8, 9, 10).** The tree daisies are highly attractive to monarchs. The yellow Buddleia is also a favored fall nectar source. The bushes are getting quite large, and accumulating dead foliage and branches in their interiors. These bushes should be trimmed in rotation to promote fresh foliage and copious blooms timed for October. The nearby red gum is also attractive when it flowers in fall, but not in all years. The species that are not used for nectar, such as the mallow, should be replaced with nectar providing species to be determined.
- 17) **New trailside nectar plantings:** The edges of the trail north of the nectar beds are prime sunny locations for low growing native nectar plants. Fall blooming species should be chosen from the Xerces Society plant lists (links below), tracked down, bought, and planted as soon as feasible preferably in fall 2020 or winter 2021 so that they may be ready for use in fall 2021.
- 18) [https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/19-046\\_01\\_MonarchNectarPlants\\_California\\_web-3pg.pdf](https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/19-046_01_MonarchNectarPlants_California_web-3pg.pdf).
- 19) <https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/ppbi-california-central-coast>
- 20) **Squirrel disruption of monarch clusters:** There were no reports of the eastern fox squirrel taking down monarch clusters in 2019-2020, as was last observed in 2017-2018.
- 21) **Weather Station:** There has been talk of putting in a weather station. This project is a major commitment if it is to be useful. Deployment, maintenance, and data management are all issues that need to be worked out. The scientific relevance of a single point within the grove needs to be augmented by

distributed sensors and short-term field campaigns to map out wind and light, and correlate with hemispherical photography (Weiss 2011). Further discussions can flesh out the potential cost and commitment of this project.

- 22) **Zones 6, 7, and 2 native forest management:** As discussed with the arborist, there is much room for diversifying the understory in these areas with native trees and shrubs. This is discussed above in the long-term management recommendations. Starting to firm up potential plans this year would be a good start and testing out methods for removing unwanted ground cover and replanting with natives should be a near term goal.
- 23) **Zone 3 South Boundary upper-story opening STUDY:** there are some indications that the dense eucalyptus wall may be blocking too much light in the interior of the Sanctuary. Some simple investigations of light patterns from direct observation and hemispherical photography could address this issue, and removal of some upper branches/trunks can be simulated. No actions would be taken until it was firmly established that this would not let in too much wind.
- 24) **Trailside native plantings:** attractive plantings of native perennial forbs and shrubs along the trail sides will beautify the preserve and add to native biodiversity. Planning and executing some initial plantings in the 2020-2021 rainy season would be a good start.
- 25) **Adaptive Management:** New City staff Caleb Schneider has been given responsibility for managing the grove. This year (2020) is the seventh year where the deliberate adaptive management cycle has been implemented. The cycle starts with a site visit in summer to assess the grove, a written report presented to the BNRC, and a public tour of the Sanctuary soon thereafter (sponsored by Public Works). Work is completed in September prior to seasonal restrictions. Public input is sought at appropriate times and through official channels.

## **George Washington Park**

George Washington Park (GWP) is ready for a more detailed site restoration and management plan. Observations and recommendations (largely repeated from previous years) include:

- 1) This is a unique site for California monarchs; it is one of the few remaining Monterey pine/live oak habitats for monarchs.
- 2) GWP has been used intermittently by monarchs, a few individuals can be found there every year at some point, but major clusters were observed only in 2003, 2004, and 2006 (Table 1). In 2006, there were more than 10,000 monarchs at GWP and very few at Monarch Grove Sanctuary. Since then, there has been only one year (2011 with 61 observed) with monarchs at Thanksgiving, none were observed from 2012 to 2019. Individual monarchs have been observed here during other times of the overwintering season.
- 3) The historic cluster sites in GWP are losing sufficient wind shelter for monarchs, and additional senescence of mature trees threatens this important component of habitat suitability. In particular, the largest pine at the historical overwintering site has died, but there are several mid-story pines that are in positions to replace this tree over coming decades. Losses of forest cover to the south and west through overstory tree mortality is reducing wind shelter.
- 4) Removal of dead standing trees is recommended where they have stationary targets, especially around the edge of GWP. Dead trees that may fall across trails in the interior should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Trees can be left as safe wildlife snags where appropriate, but a more naturalistic topping should be considered.
- 5) Reduction of accumulated deadfall by CALFIRE in 2014, 2015, and 2016 removed large piles of downed tree debris. This is important preparation for eventual site restoration. Some branch and log piles have been retained and downed logs are used to redirect foot traffic to fewer trails.
- 6) Plantings of pine seedlings to the SW of the historical cluster site, similar to the plantings at the southern end of GWP, should commence.
- 7) Live oak plantings can provide the under- and middle-story necessary for wind shelter in a mature pine forest.
- 8) Operations on the perimeter of the park are the priority, to maintain safety from falling dead trees on adjacent roads, and to create a fire buffer.
- 9) The full impact of the recent drought will continue to be expressed. Trees may take one or two years to die after major drought stress and high rainfall season like 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 may not allow for recovery once drought stress has weakened trees.
- 10) Establishment of a designated trail system and decommissioning of meandering paths impacting root systems of the trees is occurring. Ingrowth of poison oak is effectively shutting some social trails.
- 11) Now that there have been reductions in downed trees and debris, and the full impact of the drought on mature trees will become apparent, the long-term

suitability of George Washington Park for monarchs should be assessed, with methods similar to those employed at Monarch Grove Sanctuary.

12) An assessment of pitch canker and tree health is especially important

13) Once assessments are done, a long-term planting scheme (pines, oaks, and native understory shrubs) should be developed and implemented. The key elements of such a planting scheme should be to provide eventual replacements for canopy trees, create and maintain a mid-story of oaks and pines, and maintain wind shelter from all directions around defined canopy gaps.

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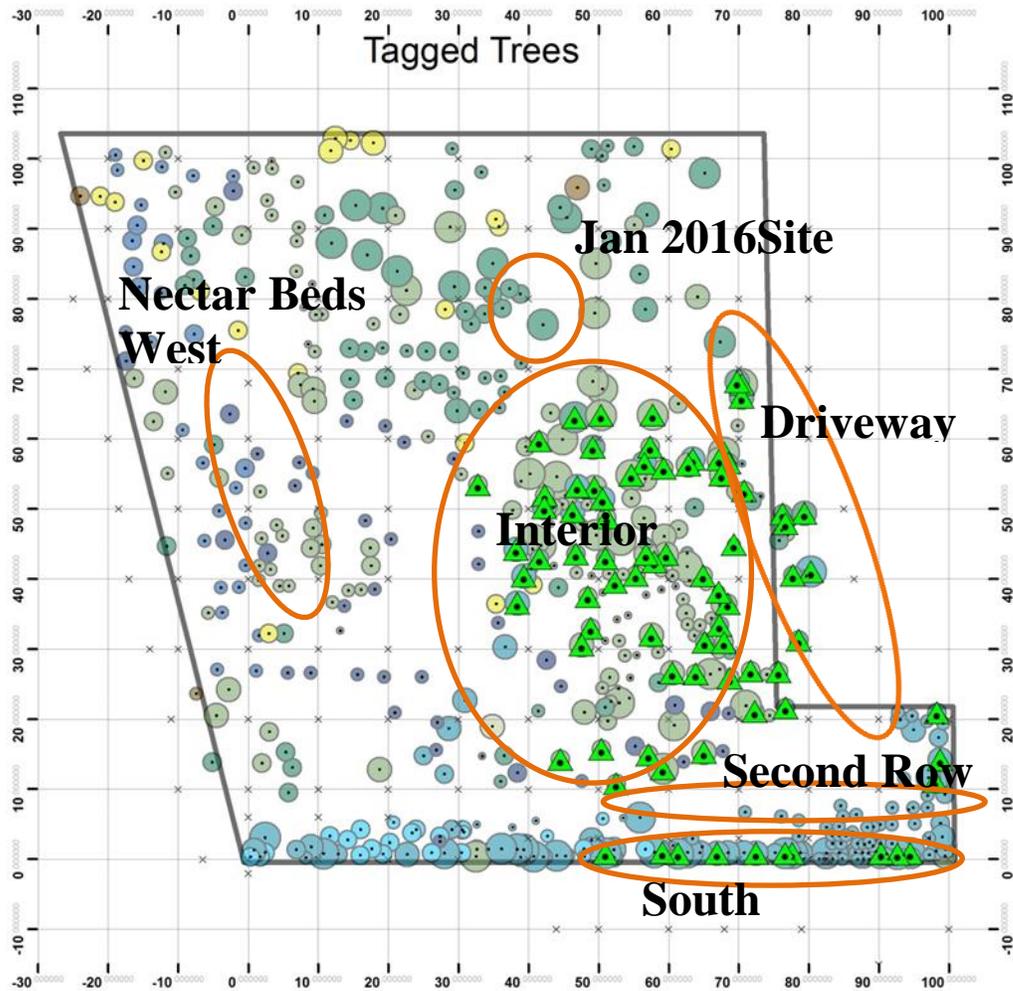
**Table 1. Monarch Butterfly Thanksgiving Counts Xerces Society  
Monarch Grove Sanctuary (MGS) George Washington Park (GWP), Monterey County,  
and California Totals. \*MGS was the only site counted that year.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>MGS</b>	<b>GWP</b>	<b>CA Total</b>	<b>Monterey Co.</b>	<b>MGS % CA</b>	<b>MGS % Monterey</b>	<b>MGS CA Rank</b>
<b>1997</b>	45,000		1,235,490	45,000	4%	100%*	10 (tie)
<b>1998</b>	35,000		564,349	41,000	6%	85%	5
<b>1999</b>	25,000		267,574	25,000	9%	100%*	3 (tie)
<b>2000</b>	20,000	0	390,057	20,000	5%	100%*	6 (tie)
<b>2001</b>	14,960		209,570	31,203	7%	48%	4
<b>2002</b>	4,700		99,353	11,593	5%	41%	5 (tie)
<b>2003</b>	22,802	2,750	254,378	68,979	9%	33%	2
<b>2004</b>	10,867	4,325	205,085	54,481	5%	20%	4 (tie)
<b>2005</b>	12,199	2	218,679	37,540	6%	32%	4
<b>2006</b>	28,746	11,795	221,058	59,957	13%	48%	1
<b>2007</b>	8,181	2	86,437	15,426	9%	53%	3
<b>2008</b>	17,866	0	131,889	31,063	14%	58%	2
<b>2009</b>	793	0	58,468	4,735	1%	17%	17
<b>2010</b>	4,968	0	143,204	8,634	3%	58%	4
<b>2011</b>	12,265	61	222,525	27,788	6%	44%	4
<b>2012</b>	10,790	0	144,812	29,048	7%	37%	4 (tie)
<b>2013</b>	13,420	1	211,275	35,772	6%	38%	3 (tie)
<b>2014</b>	18,128	0	234,731	55,879	8%	32%	3
<b>2015</b>	11,472	0	292,888	27,787	4%	41%	3 (tie)
<b>2016</b>	17,100	0	298,464	64,804	6%	26%	3
<b>2017</b>	7,350	0	192,629	35,657	4%	21%	8
<b>2018</b>	705	0	28,429	2,758	2.5%	26%	15
<b>2019</b>	642	0	21,944	2,792	2.9%	25%	8

**Table 2. Comparisons of Thanksgiving (NOV) with New Years (JAN) counts at Northern California sites that had >100 butterflies at Thanksgiving Counts.**

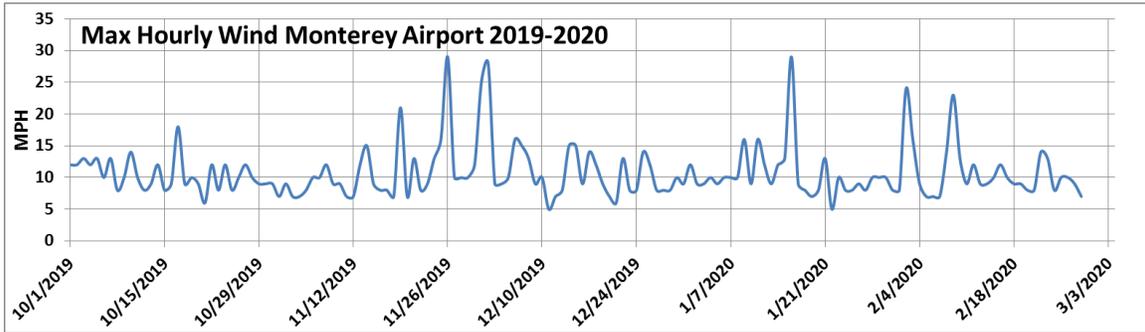
SITE ID	SITE NAME	COUNTY	NOV 2019	JAN 2020	Ratio 2020	NOV 2018	JAN 2019	Ratio 2019
3000	Lighthouse Field, Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	3402	2600	76%	1802	1933	107%
2998	Natural Bridges State Beach	Santa Cruz	1997	25	1%	1120	765	68%
2920	Private Property near Big Sur	Monterey	1750	50	3%	819	29	4%
2833	San Leandro Golf Course	Alameda	702	252	36%	192	5	3%
2935	Butterfly Grove Sanctuary	Monterey	642	316	49%	705	685	97%
2983	Moran Lake, Moran Lake	Santa Cruz	400	30	8%	1373	346	25%
3248	Deer Flat Ranch	Monterey	369	244	66%	163	270	166%
2912	Alder Rd.,	Marin	200	0	0%	1256	62	5%
2832	Chuck Corica Golf Course	Alameda	177	0	0%	177	-----	-----
3010	Ocean View and Marine Drive	Santa Cruz	167	54	32%	167	-----	-----
3227	Juniper & Kale, Bolinas	Marin	113	12	11%	200	0	0%

**Figure 1. Monarch Occupied Trees (Green Triangles) 2012-2014, Grid in meters**

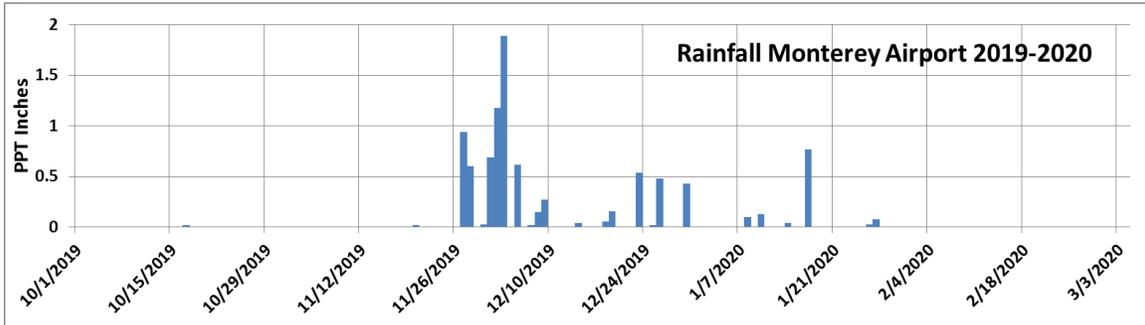


PG_Trees_2014_IDs	Other	CUMA	EUCA	EUCO	EUGL	PIRA	QUAG	SESE
ACME	● 1	● 1	○ 1	● 1	● 1	○ 1	● 1	● 1
● 1	● 3	● 3	○ 3	● 3	● 3	○ 3	● 3	● 3
● 3	● 10	● 10	○ 10	● 10	● 10	○ 10	● 10	● 10
● 10	● 20	● 20	○ 20	● 20	● 20	○ 20	● 20	● 20
● 20	● 30	● 30	○ 30	● 30	● 30	○ 30	● 30	● 30
● 30								

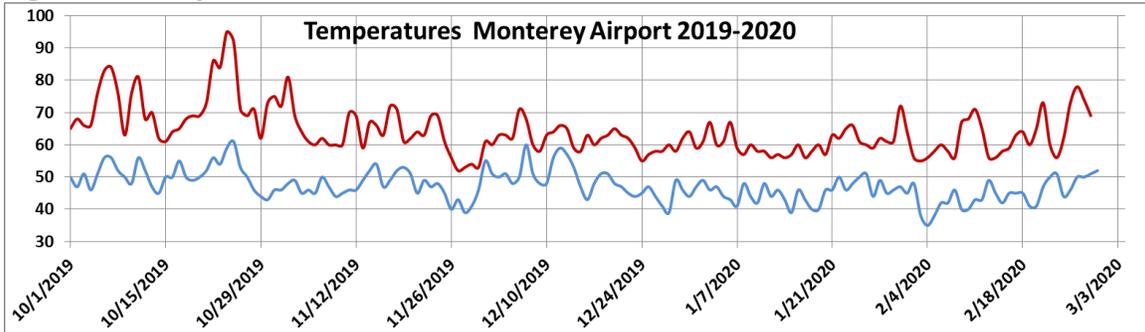
**Figure 2a. Daily Maximum Wind**



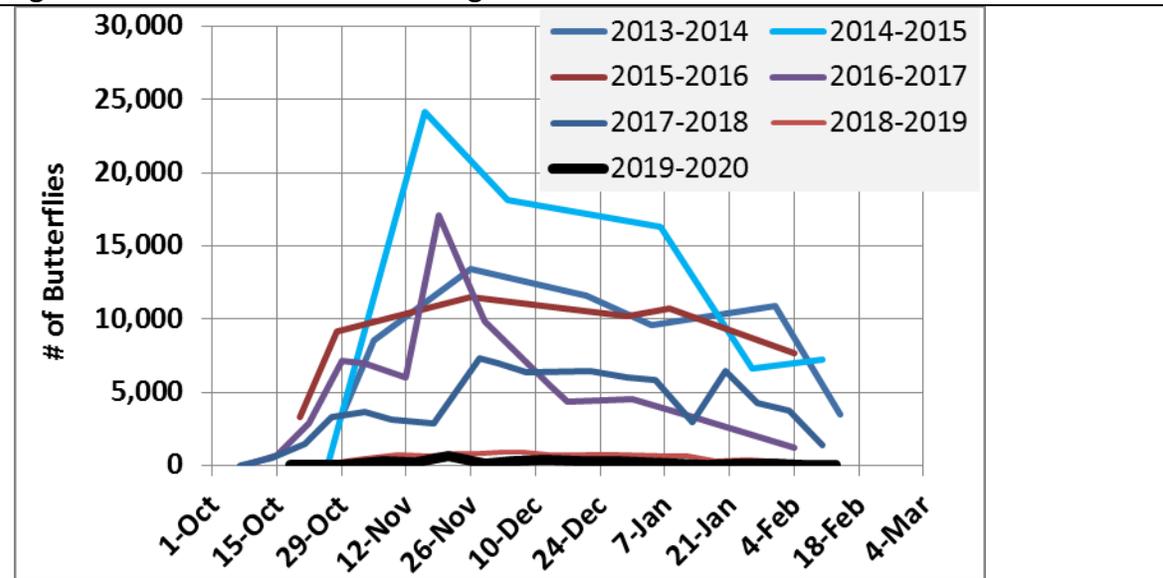
**Figure 2b Rainfall**



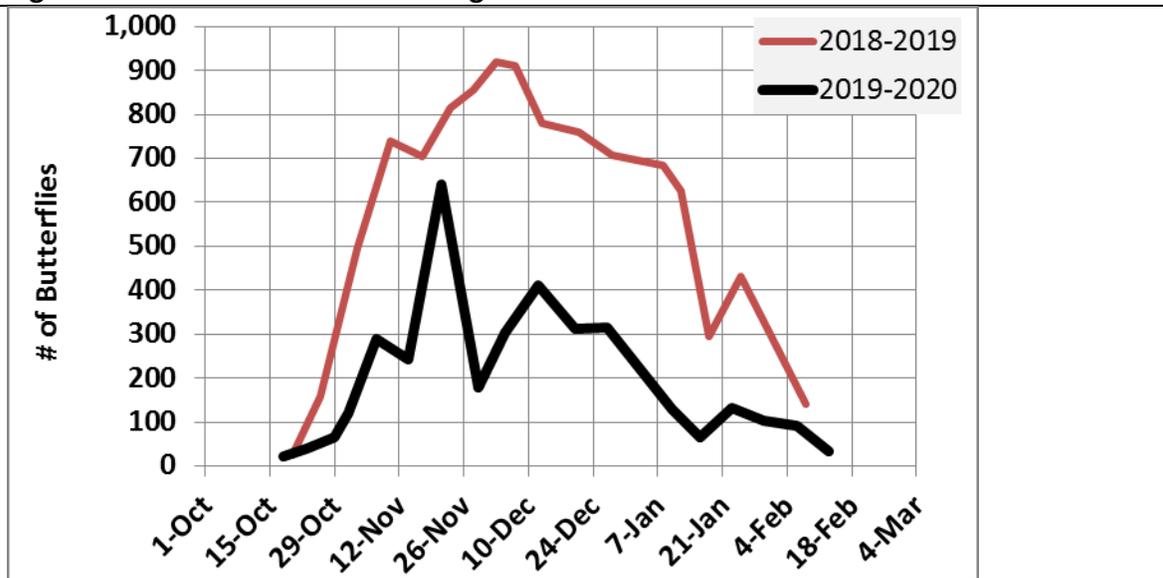
**Figure 2c. Temperature**



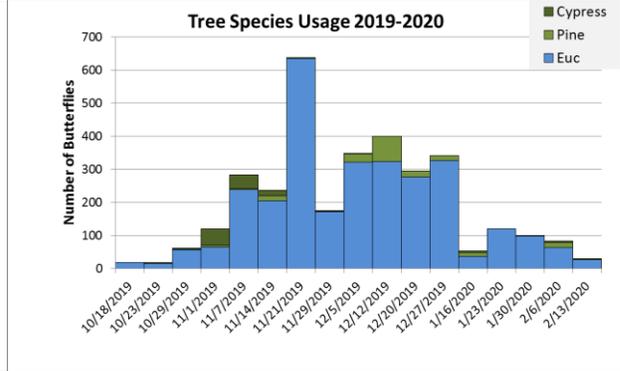
**Figure 3a. Monarch numbers through seasons. Data from Pacific Grove Museum**



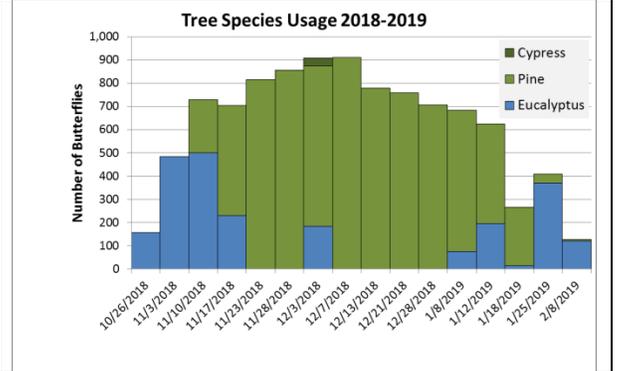
**Figure 3b. Monarch numbers through 2018-19 and 2019-2020 seasons**



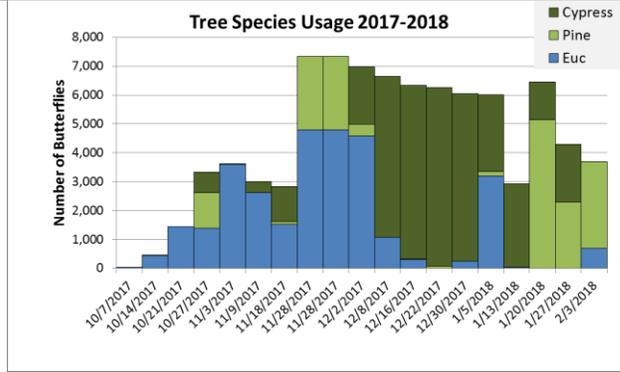
**Figure 4a. Tree species by date 2019-20**



**Figure 4c. 2018-2019**



**Figure 4c. 2017-2018**



**Figure 4d. 2016-2017**

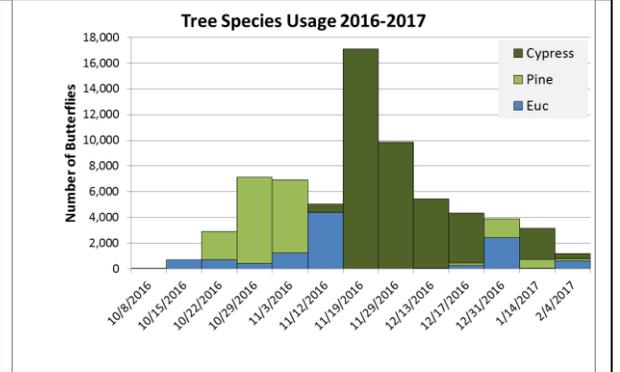


Figure 5a Abundance by Monarch Cluster Zones

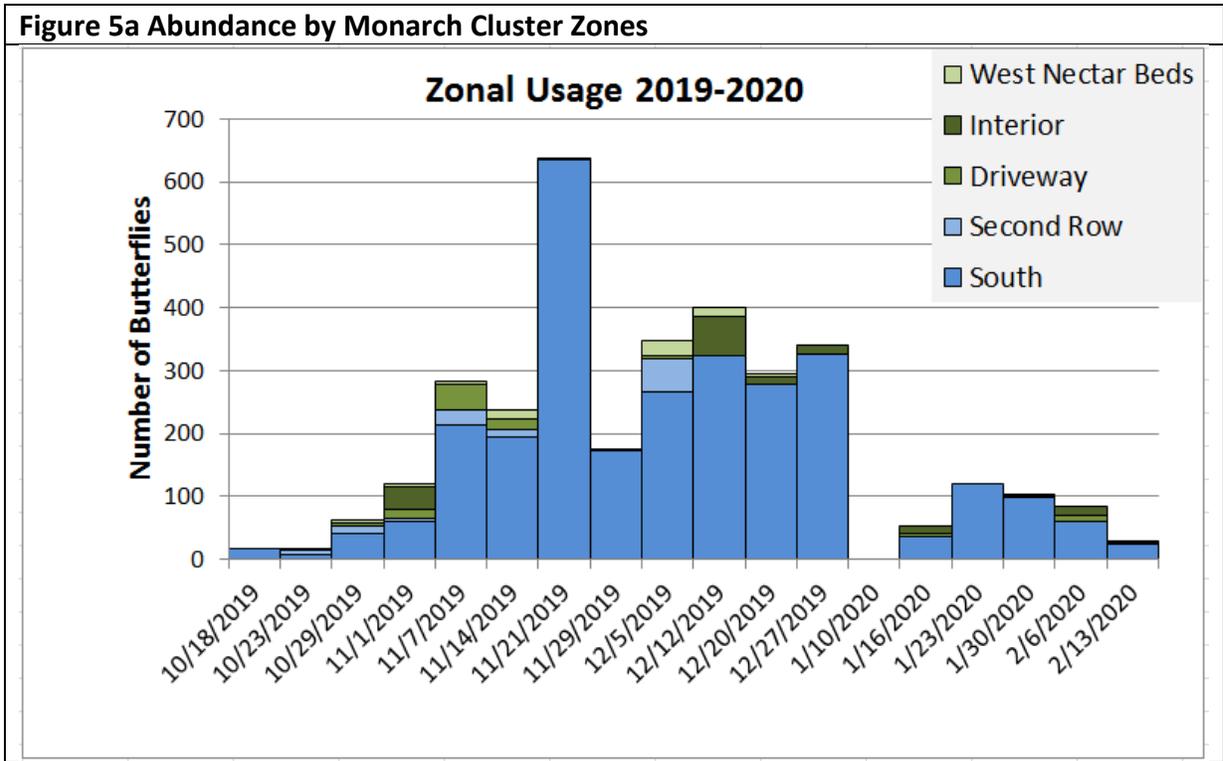
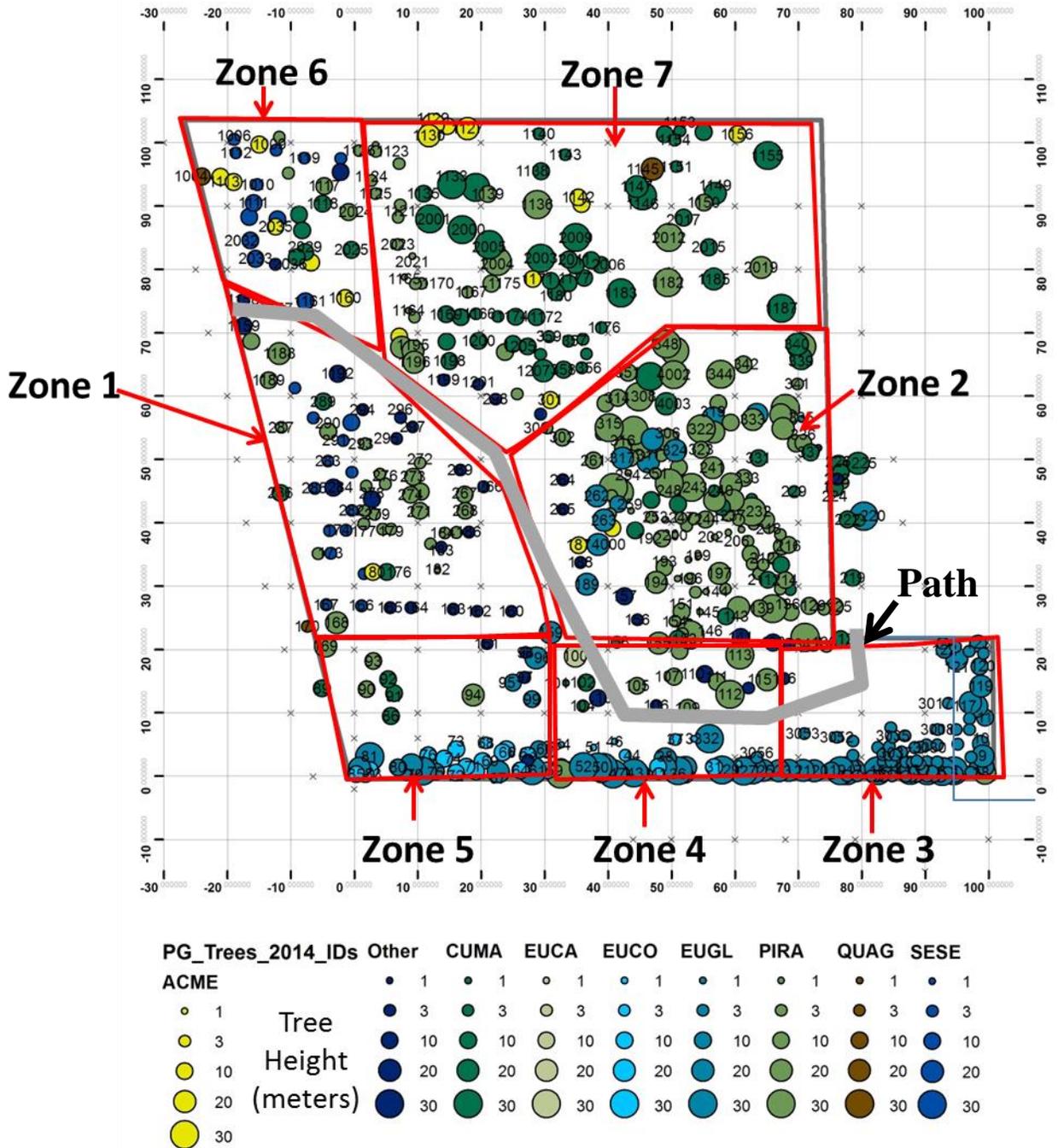


Figure 5. Management Zones. Grid in Meters



## Photos

**Photo 1. Panorama of western exposure of Zone 2 Interior showing open understory to be sealed up. Photos taken looking east from nectar beds (fence seen in lower right)**



**Photo 2. Panorama of redwoods in Zone 1 looking south from main trail**



**Photo 3 Dead potted Eucalyptus and live potted cypress SE corner, Zone 3**



**Photo 4 Panorama of South Boundary, viewing area to right**



**Photo 5. Panorama toward Hotel and Interior from viewing area**



**Photo 6 Over the South fence Pine tree (circled) is the major cluster tree in many years**



**Photo 7 Nectar Use Tree Daisy Nov 2018**



**Photo 8 Nectar Use Tree Daisy Nov 2018**



**Photo 9 Nectar use Buddleya Oct 2015**



**Photo 10 Nectar use red gum Oct 2015**



**Photo 6 Over the South fence Pine tree (circled) is the major cluster tree in many years**

## Appendix A.

### *2013-2018 season summaries*

Thanksgiving counts of 10,790 in 2012, 13,420 in 2013, and 18,128 in 2014, 11,472 in 2015, indicate that the Sanctuary continued to attract large numbers of butterflies that remained through the overwintering season.

In 2012-2013, the butterflies largely moved onto pines and cypresses in the interior of the grove following strong storms in November and December 2012. The interior habitat provided suitable light and wind conditions through the remainder of the season. The 1999 blue gum trees grew to 40-60' tall and provide critical NW wind shelter as part of a multi-species windbreak. Viewing opportunities were provided from the hotel driveway.

In 2013-2014, butterfly numbers peaked in late-November at 13,500 and remained at ~10-11,000 through early February, with a sharp drop in mid-February to <5,000 as they dispersed to the breeding grounds. Butterflies remained at the southern boundary through early January 2014. The strongest wind events during this period were in early December (max speeds 21-22 mph, gusts of 28-31 mph). By January 27, 2014, they had moved into the interior of the grove and were clustered on pines and cypress. There was a wind event on January 11 (max speed 16 mph, gusts to 28 mph). By February 14, butterflies had moved back to the southern boundary on Eucalyptus prior to dispersing away to breeding grounds.

In 2014-2015, numbers declined from 24,000 in mid-November to 16,000-18,000 from December through early January and persisted through strong storms in November-December. The decline to 6,000-7,000 by late January through February 10 represents dispersal to breeding grounds during a record warm January. Butterflies started clustering on the southern boundary, but by early December, following strong storms (max winds 25 mph, gusts 40-65 mph) they moved to the interior and remained there through February 10. Apparently the interior conditions were suitable during the warm relatively calm January (one wind event with 30 mph gusts), and butterflies did not move back to the southern boundary. The butterflies that remained in the grove persisted through another high wind event in early February (32-37 mph gusts).

In 2015-2016, butterflies arrived as usual in October and hit peak number quite similar to 2013-2014 (11,000, Figure 2). Numbers remained steady into late-January, and dropped in February as butterflies left the grove. A warm dry February led to dispersal to breeding grounds by the end of the month. Butterflies started clustering in October-November in the western and southern part of the grove, and by December had moved to the interior of the grove following several wind events (40 mph gusts), with the strongest gusts of the season (50 mph) in December (Figure 3). In early January, Dr. Weiss observed monarchs clustering on a tall Monterey cypress about 25 m off the

northern boundary, well north of the typical interior cluster sites (Figure 1). They moved back into the interior and hotel driveway later that month.

In 2016-2017, butterflies arrived as usual in October (50 observed on October 8, rising to 7,100 by October 29) and hit peak numbers of 17,100 in mid-November (Figure 2). Numbers dropped to ~10,000 by late-November, and 4,400-5,500 through December. By mid-January, numbers were down to 3,200 and dropped to 1,250 by early February. Butterflies started clustering in early October along the southern boundary on a mix of Eucalyptus and pines. But by Oct 22-29, they had moved to the interior, probably in response to strong winds around Oct. 15 (peak gusts ~40 mph). The butterflies then moved to the Eucalyptus on the southern boundary by Nov. 12, and into the neighbors' yards (210 and 212 Ridge Road) on cypress through December. On December 31, butterflies were split between the hotel driveway and the southern neighbors. On the final two dates, Jan 14 and Feb 4, the butterflies were in the interior of the grove.

In 2017-2018, butterflies arrived as usual in October with 42 observed on October 7, rising to 3,353 by October 29, and hit peak numbers of 7,350 on November 28 (Figure 2). Numbers held at ~ 6,000 through January 5, then dipped temporarily to 2,947 on January 13 following the large storm and wind event, but recovered to 6,450 by January 20. The windstorm (max wind = 24 mph) apparently scattered the butterflies, but they regrouped soon thereafter. Then with warmer weather, numbers declined to 1,411 by February 10, the last monitoring date of the year before the monarchs left the site during record warmth in mid-February.

### **2018-2019 season summary**

#### *Weather:*

The 2018-2019 season had 10 wind events with maximum speed >20 mph, some of them multi-day, starting in late November (Figure 2a), with particularly strong events in early-January, mid-January, and early February. The wind events were associated with storms (Fig. 2b); note the numerous rain storms in February. There was a notable warm period in late January with temperatures >70°F, before an extended cold period through February.

#### *Butterfly numbers:*

In fall 2018, butterflies arrived as usual in early October with 24 observed on October 20, rising to 158 by October 26, 705 for the official Thanksgiving count on November 17, and hit peak numbers of 919 on Dec 3 (Figure 3). Numbers held between 600-800 between late-December and mid-January. The mid-January storm scattered the butterflies (down to 295 on January 18), but they had reassembled partially (up to 432) by January 25. The warm period noted above probably stimulated them to break diapause and subsequently leave the grove, and the last significant numbers (140) were observed on February 8. For clarity, only 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 are shown in Figure 3b.

The Thanksgiving 2018 numbers were down by a factor of 10 from fall 2018, more than the overall California population. The Monterey County population was down by even more (a factor of 13). MGS contained 2.5% of the California population, and 26% of the Monterey County population

Notably, MGS retained nearly 100% of its butterflies through the New Year's count, one of the best performances of any site in Northern California (Table 2).

*Butterfly distribution:*

The monarch distribution was concentrated on the southern edge and the pine on the neighbor's (210 Ridge Road) property for much of the season - except for a period in mid-January when 90 butterflies were farther north and west compared with 150 on the pine and 30 loners. This distribution change was likely the result of the strong storm in mid-January with 3 days of maximum winds >20mph (Figure 2). The butterflies re-assembled on the southern boundary for the remainder of the season.

*Tree species usage:*

Use of tree species varied through the season (Figure 4a). From October into early November, butterflies primarily used eucalyptus along the southern boundary. For most of the remainder of the season, they used pines, primarily the 210 Ridge Rd. pine. Later in the season (January) they began using eucalyptus again. There was virtually no use of cypress in 2018-2019.

The use of tree species contrasts with that in earlier years, when cypress was much more heavily used (Figures 4b and 4c). In 2017-2018 butterflies primarily used the SE corner and 210 Ridge trees, but clustered on cypress in addition to the 210 Ridge Rd. pine.

These observations from 2013-2018 indicate that Monarch Grove Sanctuary continues to provide enough wind shelter and varied light conditions to support a large monarch aggregation early in the season, and maintain substantial numbers of butterflies through the remainder of the winter. There is sufficient wind shelter for the interior of the grove for butterflies to remain there following storms, and sufficient light that they can take flight as needed. The major wind directions that produce the highest sustained winds are SE-SW and W-NW (Figure 3) and the grove is now much better protected, especially from W-NW than in previous decades because of the growth of the 1999-planted Eucalyptus trees. 2016-17 provided a real test of wind shelter given the large number of storms and high wind events.

**Figure A1. Daily Wind Data from Monterey Airport**

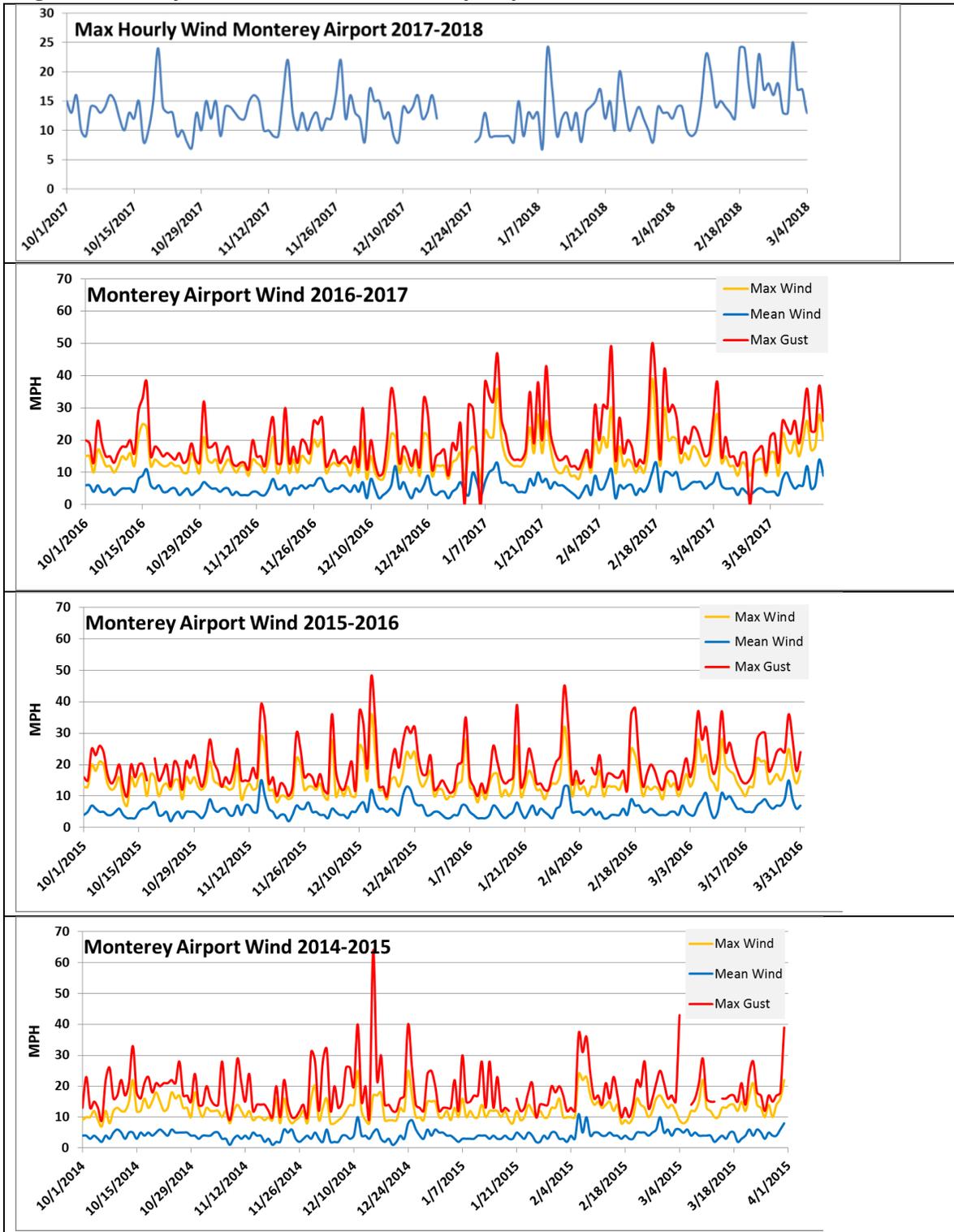
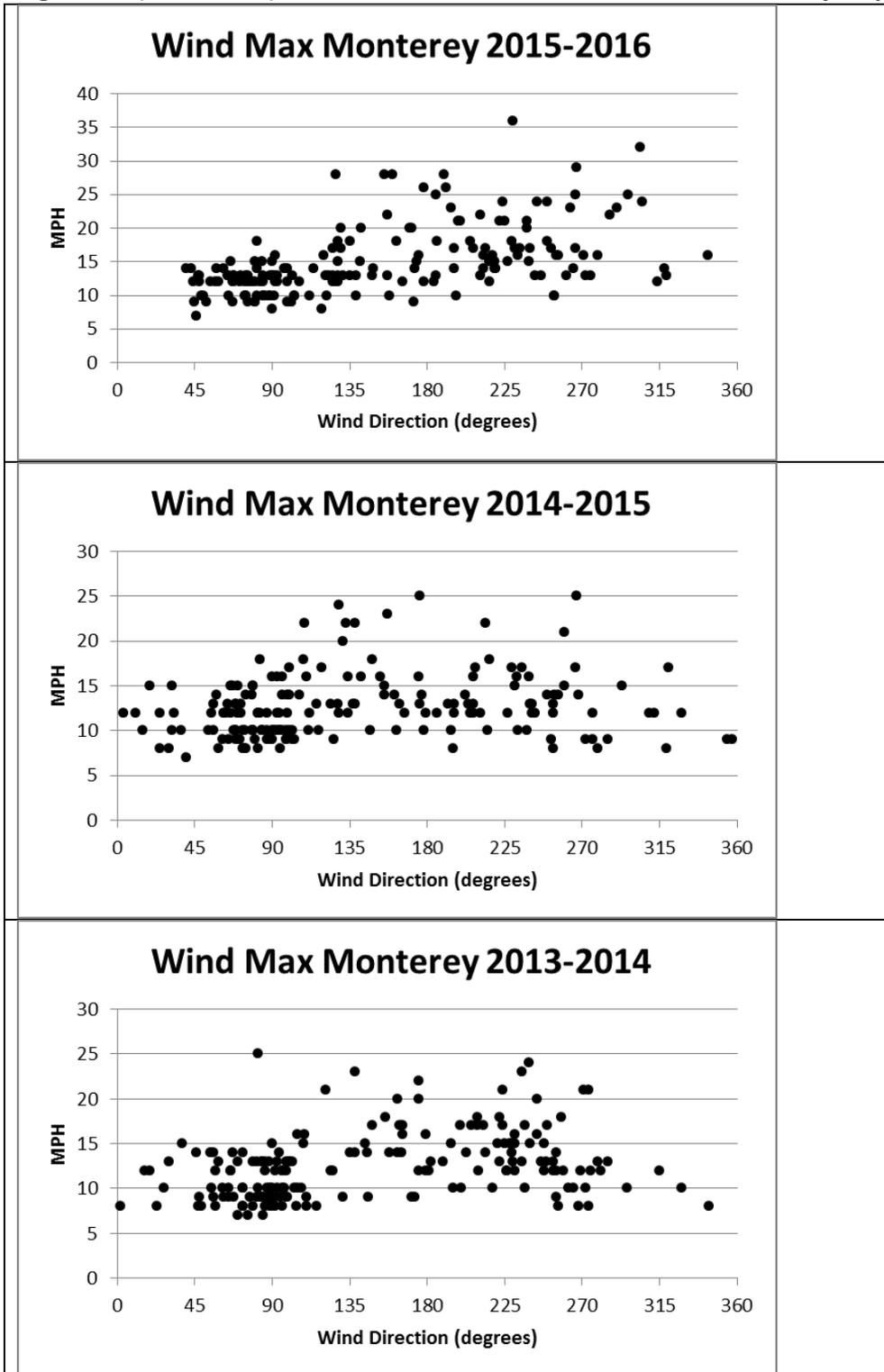


Figure A1 (Continued). Maximum wind and wind direction Monterey Airport





**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Thom Akeman  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** George Washington Park Subcommittee Report

### RECOMMENDATION

Continue with subcommittees' park oversight with regards to recommendations identified below.

### DISCUSSION

We spent time in 2018 reviewing and holding hearings to develop renovation proposals for the natural woodlands section of George Washington Park, and recommended a series of small, manageable projects that might have cumulative results for the park. We'll recap the details of our specific proposals and progress later in this report. But first we want to mention a project we started in January 2020, when about 30 volunteers showed up to hand pull invasive grasses and clear an area for native planting as a demonstration of restoration. We cleared an area about the size of a building lot and expanded that area in February when volunteers showed up again. The Covid-19 pandemic ended group activities after that, but we do hope to return to that section of the park next January and resume the weeding and planting demonstration.

Meanwhile, we have a more immediate proposal. We hope to get authorization to start work in a second area of the park much sooner. We hope to coordinate with Public Works and the city arborist in order to start – ideally by September -- weeding and planting in an area near Pine and Melrose Avenues. It's part of the of the old Butterfly Trees area where Monarch butterflies overwintered for many decades until the 1980s. Many trees have fallen or been removed there and invasive grasses have taken over. We would like to get as many – or as few – volunteers as allowed under the Covid-19 restrictions to start pulling the weeds and returning some native plants. Then when the rains start in November or December, we would like to plant native pines to try to get trees growing there again. We hope for 30 to 50 new trees, depending on how much ground we clear and what the arborist advises. With a portable water tank Public Works said could be set up and refilled as necessary, a member of our subcommittee could actually water the new trees for the next year or two until they root and grow on their own.

There is a relatively new development to point out. During the summer of 2019 we noticed a number of pine sprouts popping up alongside Pine Street. We started watering them occasionally to see if they would keep growing. From the 56 sprouts at the start, we had 41 still growing a year later. We decided to hand weed around them so the city's mower could bypass that area and let them grow. As we removed the weeds, we found 32 more sprouts coming up this year. We are now watering those too and hope to categorize this unexpected little tree garden as one of our small, manageable projects. At the least, it's an experiment to see how many sprouts might grow into trees with just a little help.

Here's some history:

In April 2018 the City Council asked the city's BNRC and the Recreation Board to recommend a course of action for renovation and maintenance of George Washington Park. The BNRC formed a subcommittee to concentrate on 15 acres (Zones 2, 3 & 4 of the park map) that has been generally kept in a natural state since the city obtained the woodlands 95 years ago. With the help of city staff and a birding guide, we took a closer look at the wildlife habitat within the 15 acres, the surprising number of native plants that remain in the park despite a dominance of invasive grasses, the tree distribution and trails. We also reviewed the largely ignored master plan the city spent 11 years developing. The City Council of Sept. 6, 2000, adopted it with environmental mitigations but didn't finance it or find enough volunteers to implement it. Our subcommittee decided it wasn't a bad plan, just massive and overwhelming. So we suggested smaller projects in specific sections might be manageable and, over the years, have cumulative results.

In February 2019 the BNRC adopted the subcommittee's recommendations and on May 1, 2019, the City Council accepted them. There were 7 recommendations to start:

Protect prime habitat as much as possible.

Try goats in a limited area to see how they affect a nature preserve.

Plant native plants in any area cleared.

Plant a large number of Monterey pines in late fall/early winter.

Clean and clarify established trails.

Trim or remove poison oak only along designated trails.

Review annually and consider changes or redirection as necessary.

While no progress has been made on Nos. 4, 5 & 6, this report is intended to be the review called for in No. 7.

Recommendation No. 1 was ignored 4 months after the Council accepted it when a city contractor moved mechanical cutters into Zone 4 to slash tall grass and thickets, and logging equipment to cut trees and pull those and already fallen logs out of the park and haul them away on timber trucks. We thought that unannounced work was excessive and environmentally damaging. It cut into prime habitat, opening new ways to walk into the park and obscuring the main trails. It produced such controversy the Council intervened to limit such removals to emergencies.

Recommendation No. 2, experimenting with goats in a limited area, didn't work out. Public Works found goat herders require a minimum of 5 contiguous acres for their animals. That would be at least one-third of the park's natural area and we don't see where that much can be cleared without risk to the environment we want to save and enhance.

So with the help of the city's volunteer coordinator and Public Works, we organized hand weeding to start getting rid of the invasive grasses. Volunteers cleared a designated site off Alder Street at the end of Spruce Street and placed about 20 native plants before the Covid-19 pandemic stopped such group activities. Subcommittee members are carrying in water for the new plants and hoping to be able to start expanding that demonstration site in January.

Recommendation No. 3 prompted supplements as we uncovered some natives under the invasive grasses – miner's lettuce and phacelia, for instance. The city bought a dozen new plants, including California coffee berry (*Frangula californica*) and pink flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum glutinosum*). Asilomar donated some others such as coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis var consanguineum*) and native grass. While the cost was minimal, we did have a resident offer to contribute money for such habitat

improvements. We are trying to work out details now to facilitate that.

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**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Jean Anton Chair  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** Commission Goals

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve Goals.

**DISCUSSION**

ANNUAL BNRC GOALS UPDATE FOR 2020

A. PARKS:

1. Continue to receive updates on all city park improvements including Perkins Park and the proposed demonstration nectar garden at the Lovers Point Access project.
2. Support the integrated pest management plan as recommended by staff including the decreased use of chemical pesticides and specifically, prohibition of glyphosate use.

B. SHORELINE:

1. Continue to receive updates for the Lovers Point Access project.
2. Support maintenance and improvements of the Coastal Trail Project including landscaping and oversight of appropriate signage.
3. Encourage the Council to fund the trail plan from the Great Tide Pool to Lovers Point.
4. Provide for public input for the Shoreline Management Plan and support Public Works in the implementation of the SMP.
5. Work with the PG Volunteer Coordinator to plan beach and park cleanups.
6. Expand and support protection of sensitive coastal species and their habitats.

C. MONARCH SANCTUARY:

1. Review updates and information on the sanctuary through monthly and/or annual reports and counting results, while encouraging pollinator preservation practices.
2. Coordinate with the PG Museum on public education and notifications to the adjacent residential properties.
3. Participate in annual walk-through events with the sanctuary management team.

D. RECYCLING AND LITTER REDUCTION:

1. Continue to promote increased recycling and litter control throughout the city.
2. Encourage the public to play a larger role in city cleanliness and create outlets via media, PSA's and city website to highlight those efforts.
3. Further educate residents on food waste and support food waste recycling within the city-wide recycling efforts.

E. TREES AND LANDSCAPING:

1. Support tree planting and maintenance programs including the planting of larger native varieties

throughout the city and parks and new commercial construction projects.

2. Ensure that the recommended tree list brochure is available in public areas and the BNRC website.
3. Receive bi-annual updates by the city arborist on tree replant requirements.
4. Review and monitor the Memorial Tree Program and promote this program to the public.
5. Participate in an annual Arbor Day recognition event.

F. DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION:

1. Support the art acquisition policy and encourage the addition of public art in the city.
2. Recommend that newspaper dispensers and recycling/trash bins be cleaned on a regular basis.
3. Support beautification efforts in downtown Pacific Grove.

G. WATER:

1. Request updates on the ASBS (Area of Special Biological Significance) Compliance Plan.
2. Support public education programs regarding water conservation and storm runoff issues.
3. Encourage use of pervious concrete to prevent storm water runoff in city and commercial construction projects.

H. MARINE AND OTHER WILDLIFE:

1. Support Public Works in the timely and annual installation of fencing near harbor seal birthing sites and keep current on the 2013 harbor seal ordinance.
  2. Support Bay Net docent program and request updates and reports.
  3. Support wildlife awareness and note changes in wildlife populations and marine life that may affect the city. If appropriate, suggest any responses that are warranted and support the Wildlife Advisory Committee.
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**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Thom Akeman  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** Harbor Seal Report

**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive the report

**DISCUSSION**

The harbor seal pupping season has come and gone since our last BNRC meeting in February. It started a little later than usual this year with the first successful birth on April 4 and produced fewer weaned pups than last year, about 50 in the final counts.

Obviously the crowds watching along the shoreline weren't as large as usual because of Covid-19 restrictions for social distancing and limited gatherings. The presence of Bay Net docents was limited too as NOAA told us to forgo logo jackets and shared telescopes to avoid drawing crowds.

The beach alongside the rec trail at Hopkins Marine Station was the main pupping area, as it has been for 23 years. There were fewer seals there most days than there have been in the past and plenty of room for all. Still, about a fourth of the pregnant females went over to the 5<sup>th</sup> Street area just east of Berwick Park to give birth as they have since 2006 when the main beach was actually crowded. Seals, like salmon, are habitual creatures that tend to return to the same birthing places.

This year there was also a second spillover or, technically, a third rookery. About a fourth of this year's pups were born on a beach behind the Hopkins buildings, out of sight from the public. Hopkins officials said that expansion apparently started last year and this year veteran docents confirmed births there. They may have expanded the rookery to get away from increasing disruptions and noise from crowds along the recreation trail and Ocean View Boulevard. With that in mind, we will be pursuing a seasonal noise ordinance that we've outlined before and hope to have specifics ready to discuss at our next BNRC meeting.

Meanwhile, I'm attaching a link to a happy video from this year's pupping season. It's from the Facebook page, "Harbor Seals of Pacific Grove," which has nearly 12,000 daily followers and this year had one pupping picture that drew more than 1.3 million viewers from around the world. Kim Akeman put together the video to remind us that every harbor seal pup – no matter how many or how few – is simply adorable.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0\\_53nngJhIU&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwARITvdrFGDNok8fV9ciLsAMavmmsjHW2\\_OKv7i3kaG9Z5uhmvWdv2RZPHkE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_53nngJhIU&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwARITvdrFGDNok8fV9ciLsAMavmmsjHW2_OKv7i3kaG9Z5uhmvWdv2RZPHkE)



**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Beautification and Natural Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Albert Weisfuss City Arborist  
**MEETING DATE:** 07/21/2020  
**SUBJECT:** Tree Appeal 1204 Miles Ave Pacific Grove

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Uphold decision of the City Arborist # 20-112 denying the removal of (2) Live Oak trees

**DISCUSSION**

On May 26, 2020, the City of Pacific Grove received tree permit application #20-112 for the removal of (2) Live Oak tree located at 1204 Miles Ave by Sharron Hallgrimson. After careful consideration, a visual assessment of the trees by the City Arborist, a review of the arborist report submitted by Certified Arborist Frank Ono the following has been determined.

Mr. Ono's report dated June 18, 2020, states:

1. Tree #439 are two stems (12" and 11") from what was once a multi-stemmed tree. In viewing the area other partially decayed stem remnants are observed. The two stems that are targeted for removal are weak and overextended and poorly attached to an existing root mass.
2. It is recommended the two stems be removed as a significant pruning.

Mr. Weisfuss, City of Pacific Grove Arborist observations and findings are:

- a. The subject tree does not meet the criteria per the City Ordinance 12.40.10, High-Risk Trees:
  - b. The trees do not exhibit multiple defects
1. The trees are considered to be in fair condition based on bark condition and extensive sprouting of the canopy. No decay is present to either stem requested for removal, with decay noted to two past removed stems.
  2. Extensive beetle activity is not present that would indicate severe stress and/or decline of either tree.
  3. No evidence of soil movement indicated by movement, fractures, or shifting of the root plate noted.
  4. The trees have been excessively pruned in the past that would lead to the current stressed conditions.
  5. Proper posting of the stem would allow for development and lack of movement
- c. The subject trees should continue to be monitored by a qualified professional.

Based on the findings, Mr. Weisfuss, the City Arborist has concluded that the trees remain. The trees do not visually exhibit signs of immediate risk for failure and damage to the property has not been proven.

The applicant submitted an appeal of the decision of the City Arborist on June 29, 2020. On June 30, 2020, a notification letter was mailed to the appellant, specifying the date and time of the appeal hearing.

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### **Attachments**

Frank Ono Arborist Report  
Public Hearing Posting  
Tree Permit Denial  
Tree Permit Application  
Tree Appeal Form  
Appeal Received Letter  
Arborist Denial Letter

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**Frank Ono**  
**International Society of Arboriculture**  
**Certified Arborist # 536**  
**Society of American Foresters Professional Member 48004**  
**1213 Miles Avenue**  
**Pacific Grove CA, 93950**  
Telephone (831) 373-7086  
Cellular (831) 594-2291

June 18, 2020

Mrs. Sharon Hallgrimson  
1204 Miles Avenue  
Pacific Grove, CA 983950

RE: 1204 Miles Avenue -Oak Stem Removal Request  
APN: 007-574-013-000

Mrs. Hallgrimson;

A visual tree assessment (VTA) was requested for two stems off an Oak tree at the above-referenced property that you wish to remove. It is my understanding that you originally requested a permit for removal but was it was denied due to the City arborist's determination that failure is improbable. Out VTA resulted in the tree determined to carry a tree hazard evaluation form (THEF) score of 10 using the previous hazard rating system (trees that rate a score of 12 present the most likelihood of failure). The THEF score rates the relative hazard of trees based upon the criteria of the probability of failure, size of failure part, and target from the Photographic Guide to the Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas (Matthey and Clarke 1994).

The risk factor for stem failure was also judged using both newer systems for tree risk assessment, Tree Risk Assessment in Urban Areas and the Urban/Rural Interface (Dunster 2009) and the Best Management Practices- Tree Risk Assessment, companion publication to the ANSI A300 Part 9 Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Management-Standard Practices (Tree Risk Assessment a. Tree Structure Assessment (Smiley, Matheny, and Lilly 2011) by analyzing the tree architecture considering its weight, bow, lean, and sweep combined with the condition of the attached root mass where there is visible decay present. This resulted in a risk rating of high on the stems for failure and damage to deck or siding and a moderate risk for root failure, dependent on weather and soil conditions.

This letter and the accompanying THEF score sheet may be submitted with other required documents as part of an application for tree removal by the property owner (or their designated representative) and for an appeal to the arborist's decision to deny the permit for removal. The report is background information for use by the City of Pacific Grove to determine under what circumstances a permit may be issued.

## Tree Risk (Hazard) Evaluation Score

The tree assessed for hazard risk and stem removal is identified as follows:

- Tree #439 are two stems (12” and 11”) from what was once a multi-stemmed tree. In viewing the area other partially decayed stem remnants are observed. The two stems that are targeted for removal are weak and overextended and poorly attached to an existing root mass. These stems are vestigial growth from a larger central tree that was removed (there is an existing remaining larger diameter stem that will remain). Based upon the poor attachments and overextension of the stems, it is determined the tree stems have a THEF score of 10.

## Assessment

It appears to be an unnecessary hardship and liability to retain the two stems due to their condition and location. The stems are malformed and overextended sprouting attached to the live base of former multiple stemmed trees. A static pull test revealed the weak nature of the stems which can be moved by hand and pushed toward the existing structure. They are overextended with a significant lean and sweep, supported by vertical 4x4 posts. While these stems appear to be secure because of the posts, they are easily moved by hand laterally, showing they are easily swayed by the wind. They are very likely for failure during inclement weather (the stem closest to the structure slams against the house when pushed). The stems have a low live crown ratio and are not aesthetically pleasing and do not serve a functional role in the landscape, either as a deterrent to erosion or functional windbreak. Recommended removal of the tree stems will not significantly alter air movement, contribute to erosion, or create a significant impact on wildlife as no active bird or animal nesting sites were observed at the time of assessment.

## Recommendations

It is recommended the two stems be removed as a significant pruning. There is a much larger overstory tree that will remain, all appearing to be part of the original root mass. After proper authorization, the tree stems shall be removed by a licensed insured professional tree service. No surrounding tree protection is necessary when the tree drop zone is clear of protected vegetation. Tree stem removal shall be consistent with safe arboricultural work practices utilizing the removal of trees and their parts in smaller manageable pieces and roped down carefully so as not to damage any surrounding trees or plants. The use of specialized equipment may be authorized if it can be shown that no damage to the surrounding ecosystem will be sustained. At no time shall the trees be dropped in one piece to damage any surrounding trees or property. Tree wood and clippings are to be disposed of consistent with the current California Department of Forestry guidelines which would include stockpiling of material on-site or disposal at an approved refuse site. When the listed tree stems are removed, other immediately remaining trees adjacent to these should be inspected for the potential for pruning (utilizing current arboricultural standards) and deadwood removal.

## Replanting

The City of Pacific Grove through Its General Plan and City Ordinances has tree replacement conditions as part of a tree removal permit when sufficient space exists to replant that does not create an overcrowded vegetated situation. In this case, the two stems should be considered significant pruning, therefore no replanting should be necessary.

## **Disclosure Statement**

Use of report: This letter and the THEF score sheet are to be considered and used as background information for the current tree removal application process implemented by the City of Pacific Grove. The report is prepared to assist the City, along with other required documents, in determining if and under what circumstances a permit may be issued.

Inspection limitations: The inspection of the tree consisted solely of a visual inspection from the ground. While more thorough techniques are available for inspection and evaluation, they were neither requested nor considered necessary or appropriate at this time. This report is based on a visual inspection of tree condition and for obvious defects. It is not intended to constitute a complete health and hazard evaluation. Further investigation would be required to more definitively evaluate the health and hazards posed by the subject trees, some of which may not be disclosed by visual inspections. Investigations include but are not limited to core samples, root crown excavation, and visual inspection of the entire trees by climbing. Please be advised that healthy trees and/or limbs may fail under certain conditions and that the above recommendations are based on industry standards of tree care.

Urban Foresters/Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge training and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance their health and beauty and to attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the arborist or to seek additional advice. Trees and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by innumerable factors beyond our control. Trees fail in ways and because of conditions we do not fully understand.

Urban Foresters/Arborists cannot detect or anticipate every condition or event that could lead to the structural failure of a tree. Conditions are often hidden within the trees and below ground. Urban Foresters/Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, for any specific period or when a tree or its parts may fail. Further, remedial treatments, as with any treatment or therapy, cannot be guaranteed. Treatment, pruning, bracing and removal of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborist's skills and usual services such as the boundaries of properties, property ownership, site lines, neighbor disputes and agreements, and other issues. Therefore, urban forester/arborists cannot consider such issues unless complete and accurate information is disclosed in a timely fashion. Then, the urban forester/arborist can be expected, reasonably, to rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information provided. Trees can be managed but not controlled. To live near trees, regardless of their condition, is to accept some degree of risk. The only way to eliminate all risks associated with trees is to eliminate all trees.

Hazard/hazard potential: For this evaluation and/report, a tree or tree part that presents a threat to humans, livestock, vehicles, structures, landscape features, or other entity of civilization from uprooting, falling, breaking, or growth development (e.g., roots). While all large landscape trees in proximity to such targets present some degree of hazard regardless of their condition, such inherent hazard is not intended as within this definition and its usage in this evaluation and report. As trees and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by innumerable factors beyond our control, F. O. Consulting and its personnel offer no guarantees, stated or implied, as to tree, plant or general landscape safety, health, condition or improvement, beyond that specifically stated in writing in accepted contracts.

Thank you very much and please feel free to call if there are any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Frank Ono

Certified Arborist #536

This report is based on a visual inspection of tree condition and for obvious defects. It is not intended to constitute a complete health and hazard evaluation. Further investigation would be required to more definitively evaluate the health and hazards posed by the subject trees, some of which may not be disclosed by visual inspections. Investigations may include but are not limited to core samples, root crown excavation, and visual inspection of the entire tree or trees by climbing. Please be advised that healthy trees and/or limbs may fail under certain conditions and that the above recommendations are based on industry standards of tree care. This report is made with the understanding that no representations or warranties, either expressed or implied are made that any trees referred to in the report or located on or adjacent to the subject property are sound or safe.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



#439 are two stems growing from a common root mass



Trees supported by posts



The two stems are attached and from a common decaying root mass



Common root mass with decay in two of the previous stems



Movement into the building can be made easily by hand (note the position of the stem to the pipe behind the stem to the following picture)



The stem can be pushed easily 3-4 inches into the wall by hand

# 439



# A Photographic Guide to the Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas TREE HAZARD EVALUATION FORM 2nd Edition

Site/Address: 1204 Miles Ave  
 Map/Location: REAR YARD  
 Owner: public  private  unknown  other   
 Date: 6-17-20 Inspector: OND  
 Date of last inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

HAZARD RATING:						
<u>4</u>	+	<u>2</u>	+	<u>4</u>	=	<u>10</u>
Failure Potential		Size of part		Target Rating	=	Hazard Rating
_____ Immediate action needed						
_____ Needs further inspection						
_____ Dead tree						

## TREE CHARACTERISTICS

Tree #: 439 Species: COAST LIVE OAK  
 DBH: 2 1/2" # of trunks: 2 Height: 25 Spread: 20  
 Form:  generally symmetric  minor asymmetry  major asymmetry  stump sprout  stag-headed  
 Crown class:  dominant  co-dominant  intermediate  suppressed  
 Live crown ratio: 40 % Age class:  young  semi-mature  mature  over-mature/senescent  
 Pruning history:  crown cleaned  excessively thinned  topped  crown raised  pollarded  crown reduced  flush cuts  cabled/braced  
 none  multiple pruning events Approx. dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Value:  specimen  heritage/historic  wildlife  unusual  street tree  screen  shade  indigenous  protected by gov. agency

## TREE HEALTH

Foliage color:  normal  chlorotic  necrotic Epicormics?  Y  N  
 Foliage density:  normal  sparse Leaf size:  normal  small  
 Annual shoot growth:  excellent  average  poor Twig Dieback?  Y  N  
 Woundwood development:  excellent  average  poor  none  
 Vigor class:  excellent  average  fair  poor  
 Major pests/diseases: \_\_\_\_\_

## SITE CONDITIONS

Site Character:  residence  commercial  industrial  park  open space  natural  woodland/forest  
 Landscape type:  parkway  raised bed  container  mound  lawn  shrub border  wind break  
 Irrigation:  none  adequate  inadequate  excessive  trunk wetted  
 Recent site disturbance?  Y  N  construction  soil disturbance  grade change  line clearing  site clearing  
 % dripline paved: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100% Pavement lifted?  Y  N  
 % dripline w/ fill soil: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%  
 % dripline grade lowered: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%  
 Soil problems:  drainage  shallow  compacted  droughty  saline  alkaline  acidic  small volume  disease center  history of fail  
 clay  expansive  slope \_\_\_\_\_° aspect: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Obstructions:  lights  signage  line-of-sight  view  overhead lines  underground utilities  traffic  adjacent veg.  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exposure to wind:  single tree  below canopy  above canopy  recently exposed  windward, canopy edge  area prone to windthrow  
 Prevailing wind direction: NW Occurrence of snow/ice storms  never  seldom  regularly

## TARGET

Use Under Tree:  building  parking  traffic  pedestrian  recreation  landscape  hardscape  small features  utility lines  
 Can target be moved?  Y  N Can use be restricted?  Y  N  
 Occupancy:  occasional use  intermittent use  frequent use  constant use

The International Society of Arboriculture assumes no responsibility for conclusions or recommendations derived from use of this form.

# 439

TREE DEFECTS

ROOT DEFECTS:

Suspect root rot: Y N Mushroom/conk/bracket present: Y N ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Exposed roots:  severe  moderate  low Undermined:  severe  moderate  low

Root pruned: 4 distance from trunk Root area affected: 25% Buttress wounded: Y N When: \_\_\_\_\_

Restricted root area:  severe  moderate  low Potential for root failure:  severe  moderate  low

LEAN: 60 deg. from vertical  natural  unnatural  self-corrected Soil heaving: Y N

Decay in plane of lean: Y N Roots broken Y N Soil cracking: Y N

Compounding factors: \_\_\_\_\_ Lean severity:  severe  moderate  low

CROWN DEFECTS: Indicate presence of individual defects and rate their severity (s = severe, m = moderate, l = low)

DEFECT	ROOT CROWN	TRUNK	SCAFFOLDS	BRANCHES
Poor taper		m		
Bow, sweep		s		
Codominants/torks		s		
Multiple attachments				
Included bark				
Excessive end weight			s	s
Cracks/splits				
Hangers				
Girdling				
Wounds/seam				
Decay				
Cavity		s		
Conks/mushrooms/bracket				
Bleeding/sap flow				
Loose/cracked bark				
Nesting hole/bee hive				
Deadwood/stubs				
Borers/termites/ants				
Cankers/galls/burls				
Previous failure				

HAZARD RATING

Tree part most likely to fail: STEMS

Failure potential: 1 - low; 2 - medium; 3 - high; 4 - severe

Inspection period: \_\_\_\_\_ annual \_\_\_\_\_ biannual \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

Size of part: 1 - <6" (15 cm); 2 - 6-18" (15-45 cm);

Failure Potential + Size of Part + Target Rating = Hazard Rating

3 - 18-30" (45-75 cm); 4 - >30" (75 cm)

4 + 2 + 4 = 10

Target rating: 1 - occasional use; 2 intermittent use;

3 - frequent use; 4 - constant use

HAZARD ABATEMENT

Prune:  remove defective part  reduce end weight  crown clean  thin  raise canopy  crown reduce  restructure  shape

Cable/Brace: \_\_\_\_\_ Inspect further:  root crown  decay  aerial  monitor

Remove tree: Y N Replace? Y N Move target: Y N Other: \_\_\_\_\_

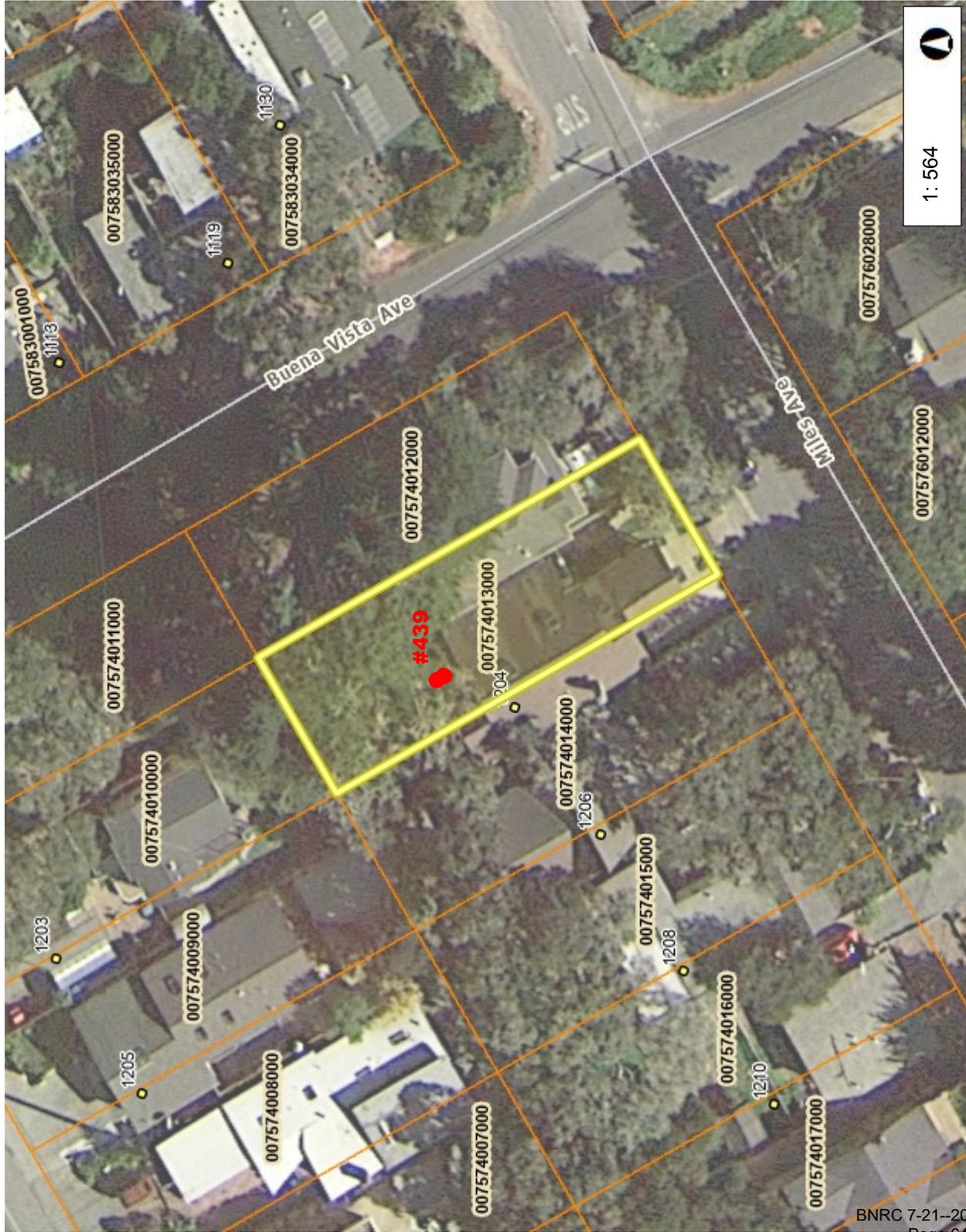
Effect on adjacent trees:  none  evaluate

Notification:  owner  manager  governing agency Date: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

Priority would be to remove and assess if identify

# 1204 Miles Avenue, Pacific Grove CA



- Legend**
- Addresses
  - Parcels
  - Roads
    - Freeway
    - Other Principal Arterial
    - Minor Arterial
    - Major Collector
    - Minor Collector
    - Local
  - Railroad Lines

Notes

1: 564

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.  
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

0.0 Miles

0 0.01

0



# CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**TREE PERMIT APPLICATION NO:** 20-112

**PROPERTY ADDRESS:** 1204 Miles Ave Pacific Grove CA 93950

**APPELLANT:** Sharon Hallgrimson

**APPEAL:** Appeal decision by the City Arborist denying request for removal of Two (2) Coast live oak trees located to the rear of 1204 Miles

**WHERE AND WHEN:** The appeal will be heard at the July 21, 2020 Beautification and Natural Resource Commission meeting. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom at 3:00 pm. Please visit the City Website below and click on the link to attend.

<https://www.cityofpacificgrove.org/about-city/boards-commissions/beautification-and-natural-resources-commission>

Dated: July 8, 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert Weisfuss  
City Arborist

If you have any questions about this item, please call the Public Works Department, Albert Weisfuss, at (831) 648-5722.

Please note that Section 65009 (b) (2) of the California Government Code provides that legal challenges to the City's action on this project may be limited to only those issues raised in testimony during the public hearing process.

The City of Pacific Grove does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. The Pacific Grove Civic Center is an accessible facility. A limited number of devices are available to assist those who are hearing impaired. If you would like to use one of these devices, please contact the Public Works Department Secretary at (831) 648-5722.

This notice may be removed after: July 21, 2020



**City of Pacific Grove**  
 Community Development Department  
 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
 Tel: (831) 760-0602 | Fax: (831) 648-3184  
 www.cityofpacificgrove.org/Forestry

**TREE PERMIT**

Permit No	20112
Expiration Date	
Replant Due Date	

**Pursuant to Title 12 – Trees and the Urban Forest, this Tree Permit is issued to authorize tree work as described below at the below-referenced address:**

Property Address	1204 MILES AVE	Assessor Parcel No	007574013000
Owner Name	Viking Investments, LLC	Owner Phone	831-324-0484
Applicant Name	Sharon Hallgrimson	Applicant Phone	831-901-7728

TREE SPECIES		AUTHORIZED ACTION	REPLANT REQUIREMENT
1	Live Oak	NOT APPROVED for removal because the likelihood of failure is classified as improbable	Not Required
2	Live Oak	NOT APPROVED for removal because the likelihood of failure is classified as improbable	Not Required
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

**GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS**

- All tree work activity shall comply with the provisions of the PGMC Title 12, Trees and the Urban Forest and as to the scope of work authorized by this permit.
- This Tree Permit is Exempt - CEQA Exemption Class 4s.15304 Minor Alterations to Land.
- This Tree Permit must be kept on job site during authorized tree pruning and/or removal activity.
- All tree service contractors providing tree care services in Pacific Grove must hold a valid business license with the City of Pacific Grove, a current California state contractor’s license, a D49 classification, and sufficient liability insurance; be bonded; and participate in the state’s workers’ compensation program.
- Tree service contractors and property owners must adhere to the following construction hours unless otherwise approved by the City: 8:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Saturday and 10:00am to 5:00pm on Sundays

**SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS AND NOTES**

The applicant can appeal with an arborist report to the BNRC

	06/10/2020
<b>Authorized By: Albert Weisfuss, City Arborist</b>	<b>Date</b>



# TREE PERMIT APPLICATION

OFFICE USE	
Application No:	

<b>PROPERTY ADDRESS</b>	1204 Miles Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA	<b>BUTTERFLY HABITAT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
-------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------	---

<b>OWNER</b>	Name: Viking Investments, LLC	Phone: 831 324-0484	Email: slhallgrimson@gmail.com
	Mailing Address: 1204 Miles Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950		
<b>APPLICANT</b>	Applicant Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Service Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Company <input type="checkbox"/> HOA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Manager/Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbor		
	Name: Sharon Hallgrimson	Phone: 831 901-7728	Email: slhallgrimson@gmail.com
	Mailing Address: 1204 Miles Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950		

	TREE SPECIES <i>(Show corresponding # on Site Plan)</i>	TREE TYPE		DBH (inches)	REQUESTED ACTION				REASON FOR REQUEST <i>(e.g. dead, diseased, safety, lifting sidewalk, etc)</i>
		Private	Public		TRIM	CUT LIMB	CUT ROOT	REMOVE	
1	Live Oak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.42	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	see attached description
2	Live Oak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15.60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	see attached description
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Use the diagram below to show trees requested for removal and trees to be replanted. Please include identifying structures and streets.

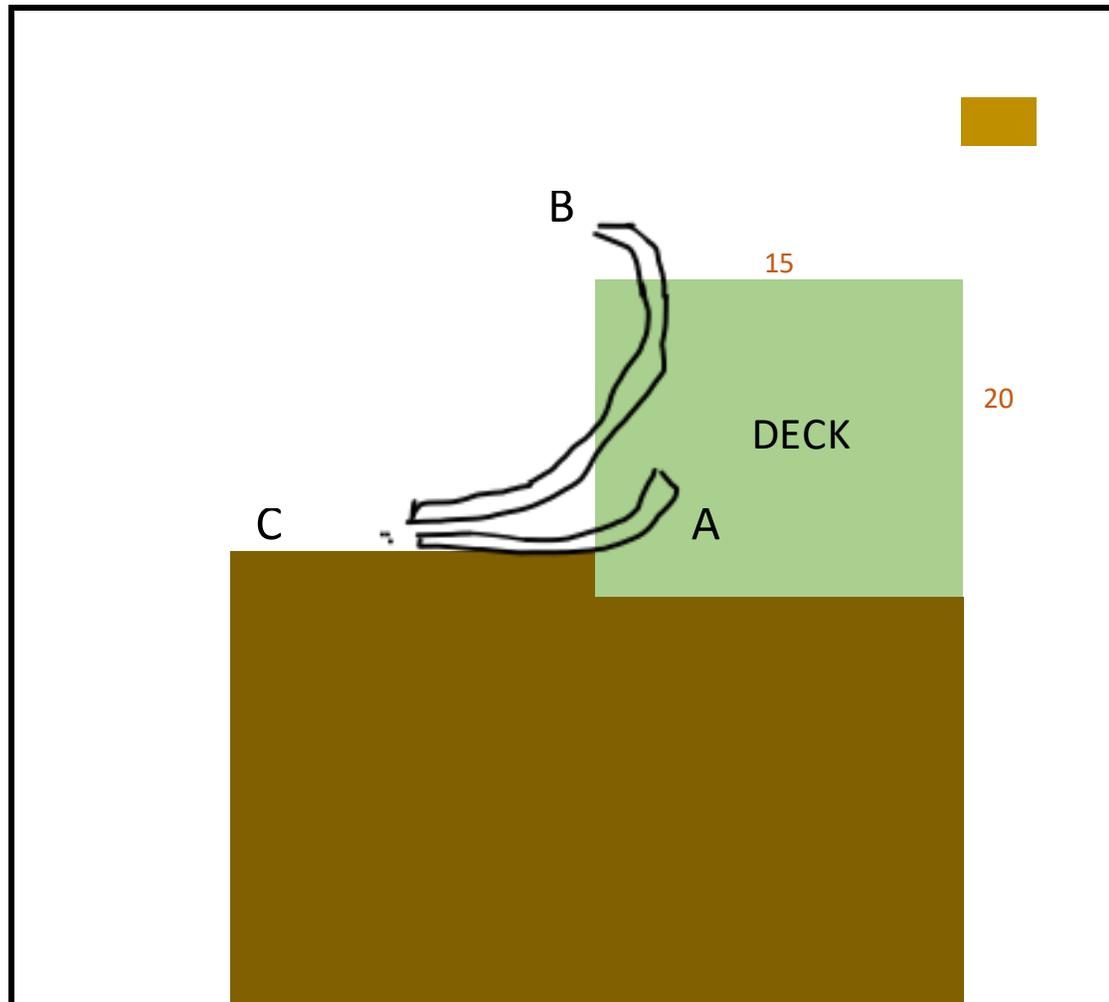
**OFFICE USE ONLY**  
Date Stamp Below

INITIAL	APPLICANT DECLARATIONS
---------	------------------------

SLH	I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct.
SLH	I consent to inspection by City Arborist or designee on my private property.
SLH	I understand this is an application and NOT a permit or authorization to do any work without the City Arborist review and approval, payment of all required fees, and providing all required documentation.
SLH	I agree to pay in lieu fees (\$790 per tree) to the City if I wish to forgo replanting trees as required by the City or if I fail to comply with the replant requirements and deadline.
SLH	I understand that tree permits expire within 60 days of issuance.
SLH	Indemnification and Hold Harmless: Permittee accepts the use of any property on an as-is basis and hereby agrees to release, hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the City, its officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, and volunteers (Covered Parties) from and against any and all loss, liability, expense, claim, costs, proceedings, suits, demands, and damages (collectively "proceedings"), of every kind and nature, directly or indirectly, including without limitation, for injury or death to anyone or for any personal or real property damage, resulting from or related to any usage, operation, or activity related to this permit. In the event Permittee is required to defend the City in connection with such proceeding, City shall have and retain the right to approve: (1) the counsel to so defend City; (2) all significant decisions concerning the manner in which the defense is conducted; and (3) any and all settlements, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. This indemnification shall apply in all cases regardless of whether there is any negligence or wrongdoing on the part of City, unless prohibited by law. Permittee also agrees that Permittee, its successors, heirs, spouses, guardians, legal representative, and assigns will not make a claim against, or sue, the City for injury, death, or property damage arising from usage, operation or activity related to this permit. This indemnification provision survives termination of the permit. If any part or provision of this indemnification is stricken or deemed unenforceable, such part shall be deemed severable and the remainder shall be enforceable.

x		Viking Investments, LLC	5/26/20
	PROPERTY OWNER SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME	DATE
x		Sharon Hallgrimson	5/26/20
	APPLICANT SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME	DATE

# 1204 MILES AVE PACIFIC GROVE BACKYARD



TREE A - DIAMETER 12.4203822  
TREE B - DIAMETER 15.6050955

TREE C - REMAIN

DISTANCE BETWEEN TREE A  
AND HOUSE - 1-1 1/2 INCH  
SEE PHOTO

PROPOSED TREE(S)

FOR APPROX SCALE MEASUREMENT  
DECK IS 15 FEET WIDE, 20 FEET DEEP

1204 Miles Avenue  
Reason for Request for Tree Removal

We're requesting removal of trees identified as A and B in the backyard of property located at 1204 Miles Avenue, Pacific Grove. Please refer to a separate pdf file attached to the application that shows the location of these trees relative to hardscape on the property (the diagram does not show the entire property to scale, but instead focuses on the back yard). If removal is approved, there will be 3 remaining canopy trees, all live oaks located in the front and back yards as well as the left side of the building.

The two trees are located in a cluster that at one time consisted of 5 or 6 trees. It's difficult to discern whether it was actually one tree and grading for construction eventually made it appear as separate trees above grade. Of the original branches of a multibranch tree or single trees, only 3 remain. Two of these trees are projected to cause damage to either the deck or the side of the house. Both tree trunks originate at a diagonal and at 4-5 feet become horizontal. Both are being held up by 2X4s, and their present weight could cause them to collapse if the 2X4s were removed. There are really no apparent branches – both trees have a very short canopy at the top.

Tree A comes within 1 to 1 ½ inches of the house (see photo). The girth has expanded since we purchased the home in 2006. When the wind kicks up, if Tree A moves significantly, one can even hear it hitting the house. If the tree failed, it could easily harm the deck, the house siding or anything near it, or break a window. As you can see, the majority of the tree is horizontal, there are no branches, and the little bit of foliage is at the top of the trunk.

Tree B, while not nearly scraping the side of the house, is also primarily horizontal. The weight of Tree B is held upright by a 2X4 as well. Tree B crosses the deck diagonally and would damage the deck if the 2X4 were removed and the trunk fell.

The remaining trunk in the cluster is Tree C, and because it is upright and not encroaching on the building or deck, we're not requesting removal. We realize that there is a requirement of replanting, and we project that replanting would occur in the only area left in the backyard as noted on the diagram. Because the property is so small, we're hoping we may be permitted to add one upper canopy tree or two of a lower canopy category, subject to the provisions of PGMC 12.20.090 as determined by the city of Pacific Grove and city arborist. In addition, assuming our descriptions are adequate, and the accompanying photos are self-explanatory, we're hoping to avoid a \$300 or more separate arborist fee.

Thank you for considering our request for tree removal.

# 1204 Miles Ave Tree Removal Permit



Trees A and B at base



Tree A Left, Tree C far middle, Tree B right



Tree B left, Tree A right



Tree B foreground, Tree A background



Tree A being held up by 2 X 4



Tree A



Tree A



Tree A



Tree A



Tree A top



Tree B background



Tree B mid lower portion of photo



Tree B being held up by 2X4



Tree B



Tree A left, Tree B right



# CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

Community Development Department – Planning Division

300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

T :: 831.648.3190 • F :: 831.648.3184 • www.ci.pg.ca.us/cdd

## Appeal Form

Appeal #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Received By: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

**\$ PAID**  
207.00  
6-29-2020

### Project Information

Project Address: 1204 MILES AVENUE APN: 007574013000

On HRI/  Not on HRI

Application & No.: APPEAL OF DENIAL OF TREE PERMIT APPL 2012

Applicant Name: SHARON HALLGRIMSON Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: 1204 MILES AVENUE, PG

Email Address: shhallgrimson@gmail.com

Owner Name: VIKING INVESTMENTS LLC Phone #: 831-324-0484

Mailing Address: 1204 MILES AVENUE, PG

Email Address: shhallgrimson@gmail.com

### Action<sup>1</sup>

ARB: Architectural Review Board

CDD: Planning Staff

HRC: Historic Resources Committee

PC: Planning Commission

NRC: Natural Resources Committee

SPRC: Site Plan Review Committee

ZA: Zoning Administrator

Date of Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

### Appeal Information

Appellant Name: SHARON HALLGRIMSON Phone #: 831-901-7128

Mailing Address: 1204 MILES AVENUE, PG

Email Address: shhallgrimson@gmail.com

Appeal Deadline: 5:00 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Grounds for Appeal: see attached arborist report obtained

from F.O. CONSULTING, DENIAL OF PERMIT.

Also attached original permit application

*If necessary, use additional pages.*

### Fees

Discretionary Fees<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Appeal Fee = 25% of discretionary fees \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of publication of legal notice<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photocopies \_\_\_\_\_ copies @ 10¢ each \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postage<sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ stamps @ 45¢ each \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Appeal Fee** PER DEBBIE GONZALES 1207

Sharon Hallgrimson  
Appellant Signature

6/29/20  
Date

<sup>1</sup> See Table 23.70.012-1 in the Pacific Grove Zoning Code, which identifies roles of review authorities as they relate to appeals.

<sup>2</sup> Whatever fee was collected by the city for the application for use permit, architectural approval, variance, etc., or combination of more than one fee if more than one decision is being appealed.

<sup>3</sup> Currently averaging \$250-300.

<sup>4</sup> Typically the number of address labels for parcels (or portions thereof) found within a 300 ft radius of the subject parcel (350 ft radius for homes in the Asilomar Dunes area) is approximately 120. Mailing is sent to owners and occupants (including most individual apartments) of properties.



## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

2100 Sunset Drive  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
Telephone: (831)648-5722 / Facsimile: (831)375-0627

June 29, 2020

Sharon Hallgrimson  
1204 Miles Ave  
Pacific Grove CA, 93950

Re: Tree Appeal 1204 Miles Ave

Dear Mrs. Hallgrimson,

The City of Pacific Grove has received your appeal for the tree located at 1204 Miles Ave. The appeal will be heard at the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Beatification and Natural Resource Commission meeting. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom at 3:00 pm. An email with meeting attendee link will be sent a day prior to the meeting.

As the appellant you will get an opportunity to present your findings before the commission during the hearing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Milas Smith,  
Public Works Deputy Director  
(831) 648-3188  
Email: [msmith@cityofpacificgrove.org](mailto:msmith@cityofpacificgrove.org)



# CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

## Community and Economic Development Department

300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

T : 831.648.3183 • F : 831.648.3184 • [www.cityofpacificgrove.org/cdd](http://www.cityofpacificgrove.org/cdd)

July 8, 2020

Sharon Hallgrimson

RE: Request for Coast live oak tree removal at 1204 Miles.

The request for removal has been denied based on the following reasons;

### **12.60.030 Tree Report.**

The application for Removal of one or more Protected Trees shall include a written Tree Report, as specified in the Urban Forestry Standards. The Report shall be prepared for the applicant by a Qualified Professional and shall be submitted to the city to provide accurate information and a professional opinion regarding the condition, welfare, maintenance, preservation, and value of a Protected Tree

After review of your request, I have determined the following:

An arborist report is required for live tree removal as stated in the City of Pacific Grove tree ordinance 12.60.030

- a) The trees are considered to be in fair condition based on bark condition and extensive sprouting of canopy. No decay is present to either stem requested for removal, with decay noted to two past removed stems.
- b) Extensive beetle activity is not present that would indicate severe stress and / or decline of either tree.
- c) No evidence of soil movement indicated by movement, fractures or shifting of the root plate noted.
- d) The trees have been excessively pruned in the past that would lead to the current stressed conditions.
- e) Proper posting of the stem would allow for development and lack of movement.

-The tree shall continue to be monitored and maintained by the property owner.

Albert Weisfuss  
City Arborist